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**The natural elements
behind wildfires
like in Fort Mac**

Science Says

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about **fresh
solutions**

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Baked Eggs with Ham, Spinach and Rice,
on pages 4 and 5.

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'EVERYTHING GONE' Eyewitness accounts from inside the inferno



Tim
Querengesser
Metro | Edmonton

IN FORT MCMURRAY

**Five firefighters talk to Metro about
the harrowing scenes inside Fort Mac:
'And they're sending us back in'**

INSIDE
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NORTH OF EXTRAORDINARY



Mike Fieldhouse and Tamara Soltykevych were just some of the many regular citizens compelled to help victims of the Fort McMurray wildfire trapped along Highway 63. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

Citizen army wants to help

ROADBLOCKS

Volunteers being stopped on approach to Fort McMurray

Tim Querengesser
IN FORT MCMURRAY

Over and over they continued to arrive.

But it's not only officials who want to help the tens of

thousands of evacuees — it's regular people.

Along Highway 63, where abandoned cars still line the ditches, a citizen army of helpers compelled to do something are giving people what they can.

Mike Boyer came from Edmonton on a whim.

"It's hard to sit at home and watch the news and watch Facebook and see all these people struggling sitting behind a computer," Boyer said, with piles of bottled water filling the back of his SUV.

"I went straight to Costco

and bought a thousand bucks in water and hit the road."

The police blockade of Fort McMurray hasn't stopped many people from arriving in the town wanting to offer something to the 20,000 trapped at an oilsands camp north of the city.

All around them is a blaze that has grown to an almost unfathomable 85,000 hectares, sending the loved ones of those trapped into a near panic.

And if Wednesday was the day of the monster fire cloud, Thursday was the day of help

arriving — from Canadian Task Force Two to endless convoys of police and fire vehicles from across the province.

Some came so far only to be stopped at the edge of the city, and those people made their frustration clear.

"Why do you have the road blocked if you have volunteers lined up for miles?" asked Rob Davidson at the check stop.

Davidson drove more than eight hours from his home in Calgary, his truck packed with gasoline, diesel, diapers and toilet paper.

"There's people down there

waiting (to help), there's people over here waiting, and yet we can't get through," he said. "Here we are on Day 11 (of the fire) and we finally got the (Canadian Task Force Two) disaster relief. It's very unorganized."

Soon after Metro spoke with Davidson, the southern edge of the fire that had closed access to Fort McMurray advanced and all people were told to evacuate south.

Tim Querengesser is the managing editor of Metro Edmonton. He has written about Fort McMurray for various publications and has covered western and northern Canada since 2008.



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save on foods



Firefighters Cory, Cole, Tarren, Charles and Jason took a minute Thursday to refuel in Wandering River before heading back to fight the wildfire threatening parts of Fort McMurray. They declined to offer their last names as they were not authorized to speak to media. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

Firefighters called back to the flames

WANDERING RIVER

Firefighters speak of scenes inside Fort McMurray

Tim Querengesser
Metro | Edmonton

Outside the A&W in Wandering River — the only place within 250 kilometres of isolated Fort McMurray that you can still buy a hot meal — a crew of five firefighters scarfed down french fries Thursday before jumping back into fighting the flames.

The crew, part of Alberta Wildfire forces, have been fighting the blaze within Fort McMurray for the past five days. But on Wednesday night, as the wildfire grew and began pouncing upon the city's airport, even they were forced to evacuate.

On Thursday, they were heading back in.

"We were like going to bed, trying to go to sleep, and we got evacuated from there, to Boyle (a town 300 kilometres south of Fort McMurray)," said one of the firefighters, a young man we will not name as he was not authorized to speak to media.

"It's just mayhem, it's crazy," he said. "They finally got a plan together so they're sending us

back in today. We're going to the airport right now, actually, and all the other crews are going to designated sites."

The firefighter, wearing a yellow suit darkened with ash, said he's felt afraid and on edge throughout the fight, as the flames are intense. He said he's been drinking 20 bottles of water per day, just to deal

on Fort McMurray are even more poignant.

"It's just gone man," he said. "It's mayhem. Everything — houses, everything, gone. Walmart's gone, Shell blew up. We heard the explosion. We were right there, down by the river. We got pulled out of there."

His boss came to the truck and told everyone it was time

“It's mayhem. Everything — houses, everything, gone.”

with the heat.

And he said he's seen this all before — he fought the Slave Lake fire, too.

For that reason, his thoughts

to go.

"Last night was a 22-hour day, with two to three hours' sleep if you're lucky," he said. "And they're sending us back in."

FUNDRAISING

Red Cross receives \$11M in donations

Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

As fires rage in Fort McMurray, there has been an outpouring of support from Canadians. As of Thursday, the Canadian Red Cross had received \$11 million in direct donations.

"We know Albertans are stepping up to help the people

of Fort McMurray; that's what Albertans do when people are in need," said Alberta Premier Rachel Notley in a statement.

"The most effective thing people can do right now is make donations to the Red Cross, knowing our government will match those funds."

Notley said the Alberta Government will match Red Cross donations in support of Fort McMurray, and will provide

the Red Cross an additional \$2 million in seed money to kick-start operations.

"Homes have been destroyed. Neighborhoods have gone up in flames. The footage we've seen of cars racing down highways while fire races on all sides is nothing short of terrifying," Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said in Parliament on Thursday, calling it "the largest fire evacuation in

HOW TO DONATE

Donations can be made through redcross.ca or by calling 1-800-418-1111.

Alberta's history."

He said the federal government will also match individual charitable donations to the Red Cross.

Expo Centre takes evacuees

Many camped in Northlands parking lot

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

The building that usually houses Edmonton's conventions and trade shows is slowly being turned into a new town for thousands of people fleeing Fort McMurray's wildfire.

The Northlands Expo Centre had just a few hundred people on Tuesday, but as more people have managed to get out of the north that number is growing fast.

Hundreds of people milled around the centre's halls Wednesday as many more camped in RVs in the facility's vast parking lots.

As of that afternoon 1,400 people were calling the centre home, almost the entire capacity of the first hall designated as living quarters, though officials planned to open up more space.

Rob Brekke, the emergency response support coordinator, said they were helping many more than the people being directly housed, as some were arriving in need of supplies. "They don't need to register for a place to stay, but they need clothing or



Aziz Belushi and Iman Rezania stand beside their packed vehicles, which they loaded up in a rush. RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Long-term costs not yet understood

The province has not yet started to look at the long-term financial implications of the Fort McMurray fire and what it could mean for Alberta's budget.

The southern Alberta flood cost the province over \$4 billion and the Slave Lake fire had an initial price tag of \$50 million for relief efforts.

Premier Rachel Notley said the longer term costs are an issue, but for now they have to focus on the task at hand.

"Our primary focus is the safety of the town," she said.

She said when that work was

diapers for their baby," he said.

Aziz Belushi had to scramble from his Fort McMurray home during the fire and was staying at Northlands.

The trip took him more than a day because his vehicle ran out of gas. He said even just having a cot is huge for them.

"It's better than sleeping outside at least. This is good, it's really helpful," he said.

He said he's getting some rest now even with all the people inside. "I am a heavy sleeper, so for me it is no problem."

His roommate Iman Rezania said he's getting concerned about his next paycheque.

"That worries us because we won't have an income," he said. "We thought we would go back in the next few days, but now it looks like weeks."

During the initial evacuation, 25,000 people moved north into work camps but the province is aiming to relocate them, many to Edmonton.

Mayor Don Iveson said "it will be set up as long as it needs to be. If it's a week it's a week, if it's two weeks it's two weeks."

"I get a little emotional because I'm so proud of the work that our city is doing, and our staff and the volunteers and everybody. It's just been phenomenal."

talk about **fresh solutions**

Baked Eggs with Ham, Spinach and Rice



Prep Time: 10 minutes | Cook Time: 22 minutes | Makes 4 Servings

Ingredients

4 cups (1 L) Western Family Organics baby spinach

1 tsp (5 mL) butter, extra for buttering the baking dishes

½ cup (125 mL) Western Family long grain white or brown rice, cooked

2.5 ounces (35g) Schneiders ham, cubed

4 large eggs

½ cup (125 mL) heavy cream

¼ cup (60 mL) Asiago cheese, grated

Salt and pepper to taste

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 375°F (190°C). Butter 4 – 6 ounce ramekins or small baking dishes with butter.

2. Cook spinach in microwave for 1 minute and stir in butter. Season with salt.

3. In each baking dish, place 2 tbsp of cooked rice. Divide ham between four small baking dishes and top with ¼ of spinach. Crack an egg on top of each prepared baking dish and spoon over 2 tbsp of heavy cream.

4. Season eggs with salt and pepper and top with grated Asiago cheese.

5. Place baking dishes on a small baking sheet and bake in oven for 18 to 22 minutes. If a softer egg is preferred, bake 18 minutes. Serve hot.

Tip: To make this a complete meal for lunch or a light dinner, add a side garden salad.

save on foods

Man watches house burn on camera

PROPERTY DAMAGE

It burned to the ground 20 minutes after occupants left

Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

When thousands fled the flames in Fort McMurray Tuesday most wondered if they'd ever see their homes again.

James O'Reilly didn't have to wonder — he watched his house of almost 20 years burn to the ground on his iPhone.

The video — shot by an indoor security camera about 20 minutes after O'Reilly and his wife had just barely enough time to grab some clothing and go — starts with a clear view of their living room, front window and two clown fish in a tank.

At the beginning, the only



A screenshot from the security camera that shows James O'Reilly's house burning down in Fort McMurray. CONTRIBUTED

thing out of the ordinary is the intense crackling. Then, the south-facing window goes dark. Only minutes after the video begins, the window shatters and plumes of ashy smoke pour into the room.

The smoke eventually blocks out the light, and you're left again with just sound — popping and breaking, until the video cuts out.

O'Reilly was in his truck, his wife in a vehicle behind, at Greigoire Lake south of town when he watched his home destroyed.

He'd just driven through six packed lanes of traffic, the air full of so many embers it looked like fire brushing the sides of the camper he was pulling, so he says adrenalin softened the blow — but now, it's starting to settle in.

"We've been talking for two days about all the things we left behind," he said. "We left pretty much all our important papers, some important pictures, we left a glass of Candace's father who passed away."

He adds he also feels bad about the two clownfish left in the tank.

But for him and his wife, the order to evacuate had come swiftly — residents of Abasan, a neighbourhood on the south side, they'd watched other areas of the city get gradual notices that they needed to leave.

Tuesday morning had seemed smoky but fine, but he and his wife decided to head home after things got darker that afternoon. The voluntary order came as he was driving, by the time he arrived it was mandatory, leaving them minutes to pack and go.

"I could feel the wind and it wasn't wind from outside — it was wind from the fire," he said.

But he says despite the short notice he said they're very thankful for the firefighters and police who braved the rapidly progressing flames to help them get out, and say they're just grateful to have made it out safely.

"We're better than most," he said. "We made it through, and we have our camper, so we have a home on the road."

SCHOOLS

Boards welcome evacuated students

Fort McMurray students currently in Edmonton are welcome to continue classes here, school boards say.

For Edmonton Public Schools, families can use an online tool to find the school closest to where they're staying and then contact them directly about registering, according to spokesperson Raquel Maurier.

"We're welcoming kids from Fort McMurray with open arms. We're here to help them, we want to make this transition process for kids to continue their education easy," she said, adding that a couple have already registered.

The Catholic board has set up two central phone numbers to call to get students into class.

For students from kindergarten to Grade 9, parents are asked to call One World One Centre at 780-944-2001.

According to spokesperson Lori Nagy it's a central office that usually serves newcom-

ers to the country but will be able to match Fort McMurray students with the most appropriate school.

High school students are asked to contact the Sacred Heart Centre, another central office, at 780-944-2001.

"When families call we will try to match based on the best fit for the student based on their needs, but if they're staying with a family and they're half a block from a school then obviously we'd make that as seamless as possible and

have them go to that school," Nagy said.

She said the ECSD has already registered four students from Fort McMurray, three of whom were in class on Thursday.

Both representatives emphasize that the process is very flexible, so regardless of how long students will be in town, they are welcome to attend class.

ALEX BOYD/METRO

We want to make this transition process for kids to continue their education easy

Raquel Maurier

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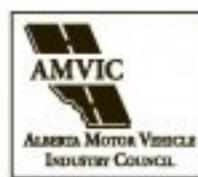
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Syrian refugees give back

COMPASSION

Volunteers put together hygiene kits for evacuees

Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

Syrian refugees are giving what little they have to support those who can do nothing but watch as their lives and homes burn in Fort McMurray.

Rita Khanchat, who, along with her family, came to Calgary in late December as they fled the civil war in Syria, said they know what the people of Fort McMurray are going through.

"We understand totally what they're feeling because we've passed through the same situation. We lost everything in just one second — maybe not from burning, but it still feels the same," she said.

Khanchat recalls what she



Elie Kallas on the shoulders of his father, Salem Kallas, with wife and mother Rita Khanchat, right, SRSG co-founder Saima Jamal, centre. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

felt leaving behind childhood memories and precious wedding photos.

"My dearest items, everything," she said. "You can't replace them, and you will be very sad when you lose these things, even more than when you lose your windows and doors."

Khanchat and her family

along with other Syrian refugees and volunteers from the Syrian Refugee Support Group (SRSG) are putting together personal hygiene kits for evacuees.

Saima Jamal, co-founder of the SRSG, said this is one of her proudest moments since starting the volunteer organization.

Jamal said all the refugees the

SRSG has helped are donating at least \$5 and whatever else they can afford.

Jamal said since posting the initiative online she has seen many people who were against bringing refugees to Canada have a change of heart.

"They are now seeing firsthand that they are people

with humanity just like the rest of us, and they want to help in any way they can, too," she said.

Khanchat said when she explained to her young five-year-old son, Elie, what had happened, he also understood what it meant and immediately stepped into action.

"He started collecting his toys and items for the other kids," she said. "He wants them to have them because he remembers too what it was like to lose his own."

The refugees are collecting hygiene items such as shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes and toothpaste as well as feminine products.

They are compiling them into 99 Hampers of Hope (the name given to a similar effort to help Syrian refugees when they arrived) that will be donated and taken to evacuees both in Calgary and elsewhere.

"Everything we can do for Canadians, we will do," said Khanchat. "Canadians gave us everything, and we will do the same."

FROM FIRE TO FIRE Resettled families flee again

A Fort McMurray man whose relatives from war-torn Syria recently migrated to northern Alberta as refugees says his family has escaped one fire for another.

Fahed Labek fled the encroaching wildfire flames two days ago with his mother, sister, husband-in-law and their two children, who arrived in Canada in late February.

Labek, who made it to Edmonton after a harrowing journey, says he's concerned the refugees are enduring additional trauma after leaving the Middle East. But he says he's taking solace in the helpfulness of Canadians now assisting the forest fire evacuees.

Amany Darwish, president of The Canadian True Power organization in Fort McMurray, says she believes about six families of Syrian refugees fled safely but is concerned bad memories are resurfacing. Darwish says she believes they will endure the disaster with the help of a supportive community.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

VACANCIES

Fort McMurray visitors having 'dramatic' impact on hotels

Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

Rosslyn Hotel and Suites has gone to the dogs — and cats too.

Thomas Barknowitz, the general manager of the hotel located on 97 Street, one of the thoroughfares into town from the north, says certain rooms

are usually set aside for pets. But when faced with tremendous demand from Fort McMurray residents desperate for a place to stay with their four-legged family members he made more room.

"I think we have as many pets as humans at this point," he said. "The dogs don't like the cats, and the cats don't like the dogs much either, but the cats are usually kennelled so it's okay."

People from Fort McMurray have doubled the occupancy of Barknowitz's hotel, and he says being more flexible about pets is just one of the services — along with special rates and news about the fire posted daily — that he's offering to the new visitors.

"Everything I'm doing I'm just trying to help them," he said.

Dave Kaiser, president and

CEO of the Alberta Hotel and Lodging Association, says he's proud of the way many hotels have stepped up.

He says the occupancy rate in Edmonton right now is "dramatically different" from what was expected, as a slower economy recently left many rooms empty.

"It's been a day-to-day situation for them," he said. "This morning many hotels were al-

ready full and what a lot of hotels are doing are coordinating and keeping informed as to who still has vacancy."

On Tuesday morning the Holiday Inn Express and Suites Edmonton North was only half full, according to operations manager Belle Halabi. Then the calls started.

"By the end of the day we had a full house, that's how busy it

is," she said, adding that all the hotels she knows in the area are swamped.

Halabi said they were also offering a reduced rate, and had also relaxed policies around things like paying for additional breakfasts.

"Most don't know how long they're going to be staying, or when they'll find another place to stay."

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'We'll rebuild together'

BUSINESS

Service firm's owner says Job 1 is taking care of people

Kevin Maimann
Metro | Edmonton

A Wood Buffalo-based service company is optimistic, even after the region it operates in was ravaged by fire this week.

Fort McKay Group of Companies LP general manager Mathieu Leger said Wednesday afternoon that, while he has concerns about future business in Fort McMurray, those are not his priority.

"Right now our main concern is to make sure that all our employees and our residents are taken care of. Work will always come back," Leger said.

"We will deal with the outcome after, as we always do. We're a strong team and we'll rebuild together and we'll make it better."



Evacuees watch the wildfire near Fort McMurray on Wednesday. The wildfire had torched 1,600 structures in the area through Thursday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The company — which provides services in heavy equipment operations, warehouse

logistics, roads and grounds maintenance, environmental services and land leasing oper-

ations, according to its website — employs 240 people in the region.

⊕ DONATIONS

Fort McKay Group is accepting donations at its main Edmonton office, 5744 67 Ave., that it will take to Red Cross and Wood Buffalo communities when it is safe to return.

Leger said he has been checking in with employees through a Facebook page and regular phone calls and has been in touch with the company's main client, Syncrude, which is facing a similar situation.

He said other Fort McMurray companies are offering a hand while the fires continue to rage.

"A lot of our third-party companies are calling me and giving me their support," Leger said.

"It's a huge disaster, what happened, and I think everybody's affected — but everybody wants to work together to resolve it and make it better."

MENNOMITE CENTRE Group's gala aids evacuees

The Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers turned what was supposed to be a day of celebration into a selfless act of giving Wednesday.

The organization's annual RISE Awards gala was scheduled to take place at the Edmonton Expo Centre that night, but with evacuees arriving from the Fort McMurray fires, organizers decided to cancel the event and donate their food and entertainment.

Evacuees were treated to a spread of ethnic foods intended to serve 440 gala attendees. Bands and dancers planned to provide entertainment.

"I think we can definitely sympathize with the situation," said the Mennonite Centre's executive director, Erick Ambtman. "Refugees arrive in the country with two suitcases and they've fled horrible situations. It's similar to what's happened in Fort McMurray, where people have had to escape with the clothes on their back."

KEVIN MAIMANN/METRO

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Danger delays rescue of abandoned pets

ANIMAL WELFARE

Hundreds of animals left stranded in their homes

 Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

Help is on the way for some of Fort McMurray's displaced and stranded animals, though the situation appears to have worsened, according to SPCA workers in the area.

After raging wildfires on Tuesday left more than 200 animals stranded in their homes, Suncor Energy and numerous Calgarians donated more than 300 crates so furry friends up north can be easily transported with their owners.

On Thursday, rescuers said they don't expect to conduct



Whiskey, a chi-weenie, was left at home as his owner couldn't go back to get him during the Fort McMurray fires. CONTRIBUTED

rescue operations until Monday, according to RJ Bailot, executive director with the Alberta Spay Neuter Task Force.

"It's still too dangerous to go into town," Bailot said. "We know animals are in people's cars that have been abandoned on the road — they just couldn't take them."

Horrifyingly, Bailot said, more than 100 pooches and pigs at the MacKenzie Boarding Kennel, located near the airport, have been abandoned by keepers as they were told

to evacuate Wednesday night.

"It's haunting me. I haven't been able to sleep," Bailot said. "It was impossible for them to round them all up in a short amount of time."

Other than being trapped in the city, animals are believed to be with their owners or at kennels located outside town.

Bailot emphasized many residents didn't intentionally leave animals behind. He said people couldn't return home to rescue their animals as conditions were unsafe.

"People could hear their dogs barking from a distance, but couldn't get them because they weren't allowed back," he said. "I just can't imagine."

Some Fort McMurray animals have made their way down to Calgary, according to Deanna Thompson, executive director with Alberta Animal Rescue Crew Society. "We're not sure if their owners are here," she said. "There still isn't a lot of information."

SOCIAL MEDIA CALL

Good Samaritan saves trapped dog

After being trapped for about 36 hours in a downtown Fort McMurray apartment, Cuddles the dog was rescued by a good samaritan who hadn't yet evacuated the burning city.

On Wednesday, Allison Wiseman, who had fled town for Red Deer, called for help on social media after she learned her dog, Cuddles, had been left behind as its caretakers were barred from re-entering the city.

Wiseman's old high school classmate was still in town when he received a call from her cousin. The two then connected over FaceTime to ensure he was at the right complex.

The friend busted open the



Cuddles. CONTRIBUTED

entrance, ran to the third floor and then broke down the door leading into her apartment. Cuddles was given to Wiseman's cousin, who will deliver the dog on Friday.

JEREMY SIMES/FOR METRO

IN BRIEF

Don't sweat displacement coverage: insurance expert

An insurance expert says Fort McMurray evacuees don't need to stress about immediately applying for coverage for living expenses and accommodations after being displaced

by wildfires. Despite statements circulating on the Internet, Anne Marie Thomas with InsuranceHotline.com said coverage is not something that needs to be applied for, but rather something that is built into most policies. KEVIN MAIMANN/METRO

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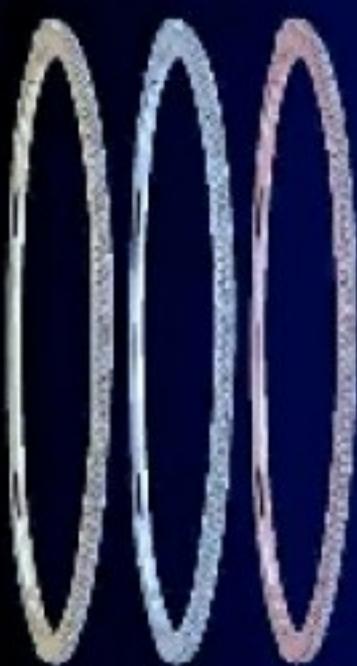




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IN BRIEF**Government sets out a province-wide fire ban**

The Alberta Government has initiated a province-wide fire ban, as firefighters continue to fight blazes across the province, including the 85,000-hectare disaster at Fort McMurray.

"Conditions are very hot for this time of the year, and the risk of fire is very high," said Oneil Carlier, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry. "We cannot control what Mother Nature does, but we can do our part minimize some of the causes of wildfires."

In addition to the fire ban, officials are asking Albertans to limit their off-highway vehicle use as much as possible this weekend, to prevent the possible sparking of fires.

AARON CHATHA/METRO

Man found dead downtown

Police are investigating the suspicious death of a man found injured downtown in the early hours Thursday.

Officers were called to 106 Avenue and 96 Street in McCauley just before 1 a.m. where an injured man was found bleeding on the ground. They attempted CPR but he was declared deceased at the scene.

It was reported that six to seven people were seen fleeing the area at the time. The homicide unit is working to identify suspects. An autopsy has been scheduled for Friday.

METRO

Rodeo rides out of town as city withdraws its bid

ENTERTAINMENT**CPRA wanted guaranteed revenue and all profits: Mayor**

Kevin Maimann
Metro | Edmonton

The Canadian Finals Rodeo (CFR) is out, and a new "western lifestyle party" is in.

In February, the Canadian Professional Rodeo Association (CPRA) rejected the city's initial bid to extend the longstanding Edmonton event for another five years. On Thursday Mayor Don Iveson announced Edmonton has withdrawn the bid.

Iveson said the CPRA's demands would have been a gamble for the city and exposed taxpayers to "significant financial risks." The city had offered more money than in previous years, but the CPRA wanted a revenue guarantee as well as all profits.

"If the event didn't work out the way it was planned, that risk would come back to the city of Edmonton and could potentially have been much larger than the support that we've provided historically, and much larger than the support that we were prepared to offer as part of our generous bid that was rejected," Iveson said.

"To expect the city to take



Edmonton had hosted the rodeo for 40 years, but after this fall's event it will go to a different Canadian city. METRO FILE



(The CPRA proposal) is not fair and not an acceptable risk.

Edmonton Mayor Don Iveson

promoter risk but also to not get the upside if the event was successful is not fair and not an acceptable risk to the taxpayers of the city of Edmonton."

In place of the CFR, the Oil-

ers Entertainment Group (OEG) has struck a deal with Professional Bull Riders to bring three days of bull-riding to Rogers Place in 2017, coinciding with Farm Fair at Northlands.

Iveson said Farm Fair brings in \$20 million to Edmonton's economy annually.

OEG's CEO and vice president Bob Nicholson said the new event – which he characterized as a "western lifestyle party" – will likely run over 10 days and include music, NHL hockey, community events and other entertainment.

Nicholson said the International Management Group (IMG) is also in on the new deal and has TV deals lined up with TSN and CBS.

The bull-riding portion is secured, but other details are still in the works.

The 2016 CFR will go ahead as planned at Northlands in November.



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Fort Mac expats rock fundraiser

CHARITY

Buckingham to host relief event Sunday



Kevin Maimann
Metro | Edmonton

They might have left Fort McMurray, but Fort McMurray never left them.

James Renton's band Fire Next Time is one of 10 bands composed of expats living in Edmonton who will take part in a stacked fundraiser concert and silent auction at the Buckingham, 10439 82 Ave., on Sunday.

"I want to help my friends. They lost everything," said Renton, who left Fort McMurray in his early 20s.

When news broke that wildfires were forcing the northern Alberta city to evacuate earlier this week, Renton stood by waiting for word from his friends and family. "It was hell," he said.

Renton's uncle, a firefighter,

I have nothing but love for the community and the people I grew up with.

Comedian Jon Mick

lost his home while saving other people's homes. His mom is still waiting for word on whether she has a house to go back to.

Meanwhile, Renton's inbox has been flooded with people offering to help in any way they can.

"It's cool that a lot of people are stepping up, just being human beings and helping people. It's important," he said.

Comedian Jon Mick, who will host the event, lived in Fort McMurray until he was 21. He's been keeping regular contact with his dad, who has been stationed at his Syncrude work site north of Fort McMurray since the evacuation.

Mick wants to show solidarity and love for his hometown.

"Fort McMurray gets a bad rap but it was a wonderful place to grow up, and I have nothing but love for the community and the people I grew up with," he said. "I just want people to know that they're not forgotten about and that we're here to help."

The Fort McMurray Relief show starts at 4 p.m.



Fire Next Time is one of 10 bands that will play a Fort McMurray fundraiser show at Buckingham Sunday. SUPPLIED

EDMONTON EVENTS

Arts, crafts, headbanging and health on tap

FRIDAY

Art and Sole

Jump in feet first to this "locally inspired extravaganza" of foot fashion, art and more, in support of Edmonton's Citie Ballet. Cocktails start early and festivities include a silent art auction, shoes by local designers, and Djing by Thomas Culture, with a fashion show at 8 p.m.

Get there early, as the event starts at 6:30 p.m. at Studio 96, 10909 96 St.

ALL WEEKEND

Royal Bison Art and Craft Fair

The twice-annual fair celebrating local artistic creations returns for its spring edition.

Shop for prints, books, clothes, photos, baubles, bikes, toys, zines and various knick-knacks. Admission is \$3 and kids get in free.

The event runs Friday 5 to 9 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Old Strathcona Performing

Arts Centre, 8426 Gateway Blvd.

Shredmonton Metal Festival and Conference

Prairie Fire Events Ltd. is launching the official Farmageddon Open Air Metal Fest indoor sister festival, a multi-venue celebration of shredding and headbanging featuring more than 20 bands including headliners Dying Fetus.

The festival will also have workshops on recording, photo-

tography, video production, publicity, media relations, journalism and concert promotion with music industry professionals from across Canada. Visit Shredmonton.com for full details.

The festival runs 11 a.m. Friday to 11 p.m. Sunday at Shaw Conference Centre, Starlite Room, Brixx Bar and Grill

Biennial Juried Competition and Exhibit of Fibre Art

The Focus on Fibre Art Asso-

ciation is rolling out 78 competitive fibre art entries under the theme My Heritage, representing the multicultural inheritance of fibre art skills through pieces created by artists from around the world in 10 categories.

Launched Thursday, the exhibition is on till July 12 at the University of Alberta extension in the Enterprise Square building, 10230 Jasper Ave., 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

SATURDAY

Aware Health Fair

Learn about natural living and easing up on your environmental impact with the NGO's outdoor celebration of sustainability, health and environment.

Numerous local vendors and organizations will have products and knowledge on hand. The fair runs from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at Sir Winston Churchill Square.

NOTICE OF DECISION FOR PERMANENT GUARDIANSHIP ORDER TO:

Clint Montour

Take notice that on the **4th day of May 2016 at 9:30 a.m.**, at **Calgary Family Court, Courtroom # 1205, 601 – 5th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta**, a hearing took place.

A Director, under the Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act made an application for: **Permanent Guardianship Order; Custody Order** of your children born on **April 23, 2013 and October 17, 2006**. You do have the right to be represented by a lawyer. You did not attend in person or by a lawyer; a Permanent Guardianship Order and a No Access Order were made in your absence. You will be bound by any Order the Judge makes.

You do have the right to appeal the Order within 30 days from the date the Order is made.

Contact: Jackie Ellice; Leanne Baines; Daniella Eggink
Calgary Region, Child and Family Services
Phone: (403) 297-2978

NOTICE OF DECISION FOR PERMANENT GUARDIANSHIP ORDER TO:

Lance Rain

Take notice that on the **4th day of May 2016 at 9:30 a.m.**, at **Calgary Family Court, Courtroom # 1205, 601 – 5th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta**, a hearing took place.

A Director, under the Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act made an application for: **Permanent Guardianship Order; Custody Order** of your child born on **February 2, 2012**. You do have the right to be represented by a lawyer. You did not attend in person or by a lawyer; a Permanent Guardianship Order and a No Access Order were made in your absence. You will be bound by any Order the Judge makes. You do have the right to appeal the Order within 30 days from the date the Order is made.

Contact: Jackie Ellice; Leanne Baines; Daniella Eggink
Calgary Region, Child and Family Services
Phone: (403) 297-2978

NOTICE OF DECISION FOR PERMANENT GUARDIANSHIP ORDER TO:

Robert Morin

Take notice that on the **4th day of May 2016 at 9:30 a.m.**, at **Calgary Family Court, Courtroom # 1205, 601 – 5th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta**, a hearing took place.

A Director, under the Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act made an application for: **Permanent Guardianship Order; Custody Order** of your child born on **October 19, 2015**. You do have the right to be represented by a lawyer. You did not attend in person or by a lawyer; a Permanent Guardianship Order and a No Access Order were made in your absence. You will be bound by any Order the Judge makes. You do have the right to appeal the Order within 30 days from the date the Order is made.

Contact: Jackie Ellice; Leanne Baines; Daniella Eggink
Calgary Region, Child and Family Services
Phone: (403) 297-2978



REFUGEE CRISIS MIGRANTS IN LIMBO

Migrants and refugees sit near the fence during a protest at the northern Greek border point of Idomeni on Thursday. Migrants and refugees protested against the poor camp conditions and the closed border.

The Greek coast guard says 78 refugees have been rescued from crippled smugglers' boats in two separate incidents in the eastern Aegean Sea.

A patrol vessel from the European Union's Frontex border agency picked up 56 people off the island of Chios on Thursday, and a Greek coast guard launch rescued another 22 off the nearby islet of Panagia.

GREGORIO BORGIA/
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SOLAR SYSTEM

Mercury making rare loop around sun

Earthlings are in for a treat Monday as Mercury makes a relatively rare transit of the sun.

The solar system's smallest, innermost planet will resemble a black round dot as it passes in front of our big, bright star. The last time Mercury crossed directly between the Earth and sun was in 2006, and it won't happen again until 2019—and then, until 2032. NASA says the event occurs only about 13 times a century.

Louis Mayo, program manager

at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland, considers it "a big deal."

The eastern U.S. and Canada will see the entire 7 1/2-hour transit, as will most of South America, western Europe and westernmost Africa. In the western portion of North America, stargazers can join in midway, at sunrise, while

those in eastern Europe, central Asia, the Middle East and most of Africa will have to call it quits early when the sun goes down. Australia will have to sit this one out altogether.

Forget eclipse glasses. At barely 3,000 miles across, Mercury would be too small to spot. You'll need binoculars or telescopes

Astronomers get excited when any two things come close to each other in the heavens. Louis Mayo

equipped with proper solar filters to protect your eyes.

Look for Mercury south of the sun's equator. The planet might appear as though it's hardly moving, but in reality it will be zooming past the sun at nearly 106,000 mph.

Three spacecraft will observe the transit, so if you can't catch it with your own eyes, check out the space agency online. NASA promises images close to real time from its Solar Dynamic Observatory.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

paign said.

Trump's new efforts include taking pains to reassure party leaders that he wants to help Republican Senate and House candidates, some of whom have expressed major concerns that Trump at the top of the GOP ticket will be a drag on their own campaigns.

Earlier this week, Trump's final GOP foes, Ted Cruz and John Kasich, suddenly dropped out, clearing his path to the nomination. But some of the party's big names are still keeping Trump at arm's length. Neither former President George W. Bush nor Mitt Romney, the 2012 GOP nominee, plans to attend the party's national convention in July.

Members of Trump's campaign were to meet with the party's national committee and enter a joint fundraising agreement needed for both his bid and for Republicans to maintain control of Capitol Hill, aides said.

"In order to really govern, we need majorities in the House and Senate. We're going to work with the party to raise money for down-ballot races to be successful," said Corey Lewandowski, Trump's campaign manager, on Thursday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Trump moves to raise funds

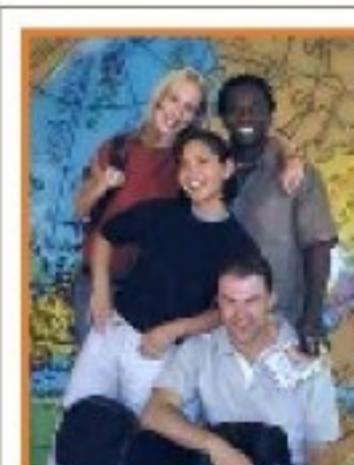
U.S. ELECTION

Front-runner reaching out to party heavyweights

Donald Trump is taking his first steps toward raising the massive amounts of money needed for a national presidential race, aiming to broaden his primary insurgency into a full-fledged general election campaign and unite the fractured Republican Party behind him.

Trump is reaching out to party heavyweights, hoping to repair his at-times strained relationships with the Republican National Committee and big GOP donors whom he bashed repeatedly during the primaries.

On Thursday, his campaign named a finance chairman, Steven Mnuchin, who is chairman and chief executive officer of Dune Capital Management LLC, a private investment firm, and previously worked at the New York bank Goldman Sachs. Mnuchin "brings unprecedented experience and expertise" to the fundraising operation, the cam-



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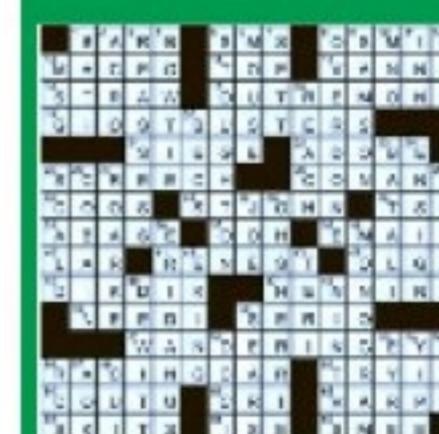
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7	8	6	4	9	5	3	2	1
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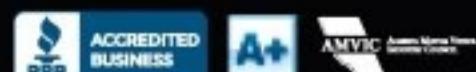
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DREAM DRAGONS
New science suggests it's not just birds and mammals: Australian dragon lizards have dreamy REM sleep, too.

DECODED Wildfire science

FANNING THE FLAMES OF DISASTER

Forest fires happen every year, and a bit of burning is important for a healthy ecosystem. But this season is different — and not just because **the city of Fort McMurray is in the path of destruction**. In the words of Jen Beverly, who teaches fire science and management at the University of Alberta, this conflagration is “about as explosive as you can get.” Here’s why.

HEAT
Spring came a full month early in Alberta, thanks in part to the global warm phase El Niño. Temps have been 2 to 4 C above normal. Fort McMurray topped 31 C Wednesday. Northern Alberta also got 75 per cent less rain and snow than expected in recent months, and the snow melted sooner — leaving the forest warm, dry, and highly flammable.

WIND
Wind propels fires’ spread and supplies **fresh oxygen** to fan the flames. If you’ve ever put your face near an open oven door, you know **heat rises**. That upward motion carries burning embers high into the air, where the wind can toss them horizontally by up to a kilometre. That’s how the blaze, helped by winds gusting to 50 km/h, hopped over a river. Huge fires also make their own winds: **fire whorls**.

FUEL
Fort McMurray is in Canada’s vast **boreal forest**, which is mostly (combustible!) evergreen trees. Trees with juicy green leaves, on the other hand, are a natural fire retardant. But there’s a window — it opened very early this year — in the spring, after the snow melts and before leaves bloom, when the forest floor is full of dry leaves and needles: fire food.

CAN THIS FIRE BE FOUGHT?
Firefighters measure the energy of a fire in kilowatts per metre of **fire front**: The part where flames meet fresh forest. In a fire this intense (above 10,000 kW/m), “you can’t put people anywhere near,” the front, scientist Jen Beverly says. That leaves **indirect methods**, like using planes to drop water and fire retardant. Except: The tops of the trees are on fire, and it’s hard for pilots to see through the smoke. Controlled burns or bulldozers can remove some fuel in the fire’s path — but that’s not always safe in populated areas. Until there’s a good long rain, “there’s not much we can do,” Beverly says. “These are the most extreme burning conditions you can see.”

GRAPHICS BY ANDRÉS PLANA/METRO, TEXT BY GENNA BUCK, WITH FILES FROM AARON CHATHA, PHOTO: HOLLY AYEARST/THE CANADIAN PRESS

CITIZEN SCIENTIST by Genna Buck

Can I grow vegetables in my condo?



How does science say I should grow veggies indoors in a condo? — Ed, Mississauga, Ont.

First, a disclaimer: Every plant I’ve ever owned has died in my care, with the sole exception of the withering rose on my desk, and its days are numbered.

I’m used to wading in B.S. (bad science) online. But never have I found more conflicting information, all of it claiming to be scientific and authoritative, than when I searched for gardening tips.

I’ve learned when I’m out of my depth, experts are infinitely more useful than expert sources. So I put your question to Ontario Master Gardener Cauleen Viscoff. (Master Gardeners are teachers and speakers who’ve taken scientific courses in horticulture). Her advice is simple: “Think like a plant.” Plants need air, light and water, and take in nutrients through their roots. The bigger the plant, the deeper the root.

I’m afraid Viscoff poured a watering-can’s worth of cold

water on your plans, Ed: “You don’t want to be planting seeds indoors and expecting you’re going to have a vegetable garden. It’s not going to work,” she said.

Buy plants, not seeds, she advised, and try starting with a small cherry tomato in the deepest pot you can find. Herbs and salad greens can also be coaxed to grow in a condo, but that’s about it: “Most window boxes are not deep enough. Don’t expect veggies like peas and carrots unless you have a balcony.”

If you’re balcony-less, a sunny, south-facing window is the next best thing — but it’s a poor substitute for the hours of direct sunlight most fruits and vegetables need every day. And crack it: Your condo air is probably stale.

Beautiful but inedible things like orchids and violets fare the best indoors, Viscoff said. As for most vegetables? “That’s what the farmers’ market is for.”

Science Question?
Tweet @genna_buck



FINDINGS
Your week in science



THE WAY TO A LAB’S HEART ... is through his stomach, as Labrador retriever owners everywhere know. Now science supports them: A new paper in *Cell Metabolism* identifies a gene variation found in the most “food-motivated” labs. A.K.A.: These pups will do anything for treats, including obey commands. It seems to more be common in service dogs — and obese ones.

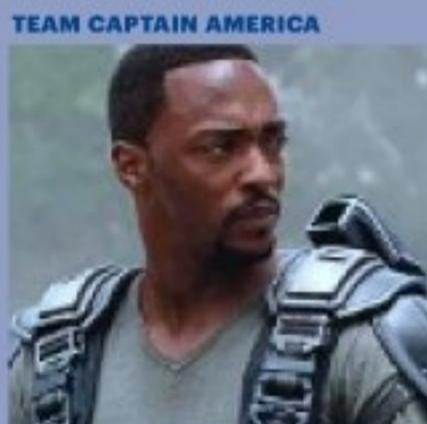
THE BEST (FLU) SHOT Babies whose moms get a flu shot while pregnant are 70 per cent less likely to have a confirmed case of flu in their first six months, says a Utah study of 245,000 mothers.

SOUND SMART
EXOTHERMIC
A candle is shown with the word "EXOTHERMIC" written above it.

DEFINITION
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USE IT IN A SENTENCE
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PHILOSOPHER CAT by Jason Logan
HUMAN BEINGS NEED TO BE AWARE WHERE NATURE IS UNAWARE
Oo
CARL LINNAEUS



The Falcon
Anthony Mackie

Captain America's perennial sidekick, The Falcon takes up with his super-pal in the battle against government regulation of superheroes. A former paratrooper, he uses a specialized winged jetpack to fly like, well, a falcon. An Avengers recruit, he's also responsible for bringing Ant-Man into the fold.



Ant-Man
Paul Rudd

After uncovering an incredible suit that enables him to shrink to the size of a bug, Ant-Man now lends his shape-shifting wardrobe to Captain America's fight. The truth is, in the comic book version, Ant-Man was killed off prior to the events of Marvel's Civil War.

YOUR GUIDE TO CAPTAIN AMERICA'S UNIVERSE

With Marvel superheroes battling on the big-screen this weekend, it's hard to keep up with who's fighting who. We boil down the blitzkrieg in our Captain America: Civil War glossary.

STEVE GOW/FOR METRO



Black Widow
Scarlett Johansson

Torn between teammates, the Avengers enemy-turned-member ultimately chooses Iron Man's pro-stance on government supervision of heroes. A martial-arts master armed with an electroshock weapon called the Widow's Bite, the one-time assassin has a big role to play.



Black Panther
Chadwick Boseman

He'll soon have his own movie but first Black Panther has to partake in a little Civil War. He chose Iron Man's side after the African crown prince suspects Bucky Barnes is responsible for his father's assassination. A combatant with acrobatic skills, Black Panther is further favoured by a special suit.



Bucky Barnes
Sebastian Stan

Introduced to filmgoers as the Winter Soldier in the previous Captain America movie, the now-brainwashed Bucky sides with his old friend. Although he has no superpowers, Barnes is an Olympic-class athlete so skilled in combat he actually took over as Captain America following the Civil War-years in the comic universe.

Vision
Paul Bettany

Not your average superhero, Vision was an evil synthetic humanoid that was reprogrammed by Tony Stark in Avengers: Age of Ultron. Naturally, he's taking Iron Man's side and lucky for him - Vision can control his density and even partially materialize within other people, which presumably really hurts.



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THE TV DINNER JESSICA ALLEN



OMG do you think superhero movies are a response to the 2008 financial crisis?

ism to be the Citizen Kane of the 21st century.

I also posed a question: "So tell me: if Paul Thomas Anderson directed a superhero movie, would you watch it?"

"Excuse me?" asked Simon.

"I'm having a cinema crisis," I said. "Even though some critics are saying Captain America: Civil War is the best superhero movie yet, I have no desire to see it. When did I lose interest in these DC and Marvel movies? Ok I know: it was after The Dark Knight Rises, or maybe Man of Steel: There is a battle scene in a Manhattan-like setting where skyscrapers crumble and citizens run around the streets covered in debris. I tapped out."

"Was it the incredibly jarring CGI effects?" he asked.

"I think I felt numbed by it," I said. "But in this new

THE MOVIE: *There Will Be Blood*



THE MEAL: Tacos



Captain America, apparently Iron Man is disturbed by all the civilian deaths on account of his sky-wrestling with villains. There's morality! So am I selling these superhero movies short just because I assume they're going to be more of the same?"

"Of course you are," Simon said.

"Because I'm a snob?" I asked. "But I love action movies! And I am a child of

Steven Spielberg! Not literally, but Jaws is one of my favourite films, and people in the '70s said it was the 'death of cinema' like a lot of critics do today with superhero movies."

"The answer to the first question is that you have a personal fondness for Jaws and you could suspend critical faculties because it means something to you," he said. "But you have no

reason to do that with contemporary superhero movies."

"But I did for Tim Burton's Batman, and I loved Richard Donner's Superman," I said. "So maybe the question ought to be: Why suspend disbelief for one and not the other?"

"You were also a lot younger when those hit the theatres," he said. "And look at what we're eating tonight. This is a meal from your childhood. You can gussy tacos up with your 'downtown' ingredients, but they probably wouldn't taste as good if they didn't taste just a little like your childhood."

"They really are delicious. I think it's the fresh cilantro," I said. "Or the avocado."

"Personally, I don't have a lot of things in my life that I can control in terms of 'being an adult,'" he explained, "but I can choose not to engage in this perpetual adolescence which is the mode of our culture right now. I get that people need to escape in life and that's what movies are for..."

"Like when people lined up to see Shirley Temple," I said.

"Sure, and also: what are

the chances that the single greatest economic depression in the history of U.S. would produce the single greatest flowering of comedy, in the form of screwball?"

"OMG do you think superhero movies are a response to the 2008 financial crisis?"

"I think today there's little impetus for people to give up childish things. But there is for me — and I don't care how many great jokes I'm missing."

"Iron Man is very funny," I said.

"I'm sure he is. Listen, I'm not ashamed to admit that I'm a cultural elitist. I want film to be fortifying. Some people may have walked out of *There Will Be Blood* wondering why would you want to subject yourself to that? It's exhilaratingly nihilistic. That's precisely why I loved it. That's how I want art to make me feel."

"But what if Paul Thomas Anderson directed a superhero movie?"

"Oh god," he said. "I would watch it in a second."

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's *The Social*.

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Josh Wiggins and Sophie Nélisse star as teen lovers on the run in *Mean Dreams* by Toronto's Nathan Morlando, which has its world premiere this month at Cannes Film Festival. CONTRIBUTED

CANADIAN CINEMA

A short stroll away from Cannes

Canadians always get a big bonjour at the Cannes Film Festival. Rare is the year without at least one Canuck movie competing for the Palme d'Or.

But there's another corner of Cannes where Canadians possibly get an even warmer welcome, a short stroll away from the Palais des Festivals along the Croisette, the Riviera waterfront promenade.

It's the Directors' Fortnight, the concurrent program for newer directors and non-traditional cinema styles that began in 1969 in response to social upheavals of the previous year.

The Fortnight, now based in Théâtre Croisette in the JW Marriott, has been the European launch pad for many a great Canadian film and career. This year's Fortnight selection has two Canadian offerings: Torontonian

Nathan Morlando's *Mean Dreams* and Montrealer Kim Nguyen's *Two Lovers and a Bear*, both films concerning romance on the run.

In separate interviews, both directors are ecstatic about their first Cannes film premieres and in awe of the Fortnight's Canadian legacy.

"I'm learning about it pretty fast," Morlando says of the Fortnight. (His feature debut *Citizen Gangster* won the Best Canadian First Feature prize at TIFF 2011.)

"I just finished mixing *Mean Dreams* yesterday, so it's been a really, really intense ride since our invitation. Everybody around me has been getting really excited, but I haven't allowed myself to really enjoy it yet because I was just focused on the film. I've been very nervous about it, because we're hand-delivering it to Cannes on May 8."

Premiering May 15, *Mean Dreams* is a coming-of-age thriller starring Sophie Nélisse (*The Book Thief*) and Josh Wiggins (*Hellion*) as teen lovers Casey and Jonas, running for their lives from a corrupt cop (Bill Paxton).

Nguyen has already planned what he's going to do following the May 18 evening premiere of *Two Lovers and a Bear*, a Far North adventure starring Tatiana Maslany and Dane DeHaan as lost souls attempting to escape life's cares — and also a hungry polar bear.

"One of my big, big, big objectives in Cannes is to wake up with a wrinkled tuxedo," says Nguyen, who was Oscar-nominated for his 2012 drama *Rebelle* (*War Witch*). "I actually want to watch the sunrise with a wrinkled tuxedo. It will be awesome!"

PETER HOWELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



3 DIFFERENT MOVIE MOMS

The Wise Mom

Sally Field filled her son with optimism and sensible schooling like "life is like a box of chocolates" in the Oscar-winning hit *Forrest Gump*.

The Protector

In *Terminator 2*, Sarah Connor (Linda Hamilton) stopped a robot apocalypse while guarding her son from a murderous cyborg in the guise of Arnold Schwarzenegger.

The Mentor

Sandra Bullock won an Oscar for portraying the real mother that adopted a homeless teen and raised him to become a football great in *The Blind Side*.

Director Sara Kapoor stars in *The Bad Mother*, available on Video on Demand. CONTRIBUTED

The Bad Mother makes a good point

COMEDY

Film portrays the stresses of working and parenthood

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada

Filmmaker Sarah Kapoor gave her mom a mother's day gift she'll never forget — she cast her in a movie about motherhood.

"Well, I didn't have to pay her," laughed the actor-director about working alongside her mom in the new comedy *The Bad Mother*. "That was probably the riskiest casting decision of all but we wanted to make the movie (and) it was a way to skip the acting costs and start filming right away."

Kapoor's benevolence wasn't just limited to her mother either. In fact, the film experience extended to the whole family as her husband and kids also appear in the movie of a mom so fed up with an oppressive work-life balance that she drafts up a rant that accidentally goes viral — sending her situation into chaos.

"For women who need and want to work, there's so many obstacles and if you choose to be a stay-at-home mother, you're undervalued," said

FAMILY BUSINESS

Gwyneth Paltrow and Blythe Danner: The mother-daughter duo paired up in a 2003 acclaimed biopic about poet Sylvia Plath, simply titled *Sylvia*.

Dakota Johnson and Melanie Griffith: Before she was turning *Fifty Shades of Grey*, Dakota Johnson made her debut going *Crazy In Alabama* — her mom's 1999 crime comedy.

Meryl Streep and Mamie Gummer: This famous mom-daughter combo has teamed up three times — most recently in 2015's rock n' roll comedy *Ricki and the Flash*.



Kapoor about the spark that ignited her cinematic ode to motherhood. "There's an abundance of incredible research that supports these ideas but there was no mainstream, accessible movie about it. So we took the field of dreams approach and (thought) build it and they will come."

A working mother of two herself, Kapoor insists that the main character she portrays may not be quite true-to-life, but she's a definitely a composite of truth.

"Certainly it's inspired by feelings that I've had. The character Tara is an alternate version of myself," said Kapoor, adding the story's broader message about family may be more profound. "It's about women and mothers for sure, but when you watch the movie, it's really about that struggle that impacts the whole family — it's hard on dads too when work-culture demands an enormous amount of loyalty."

A poignant topic that could've easily been dealt with a heavy hand, Kapoor made sure to give the social issue a lift of levity.

"Imagine pitching a movie on work-life balance and child care — who's going to go for that?" said Kapoor. "But if you make it and it's funny and endearing — well, the response has been wonderful."

The Bad Mother is available online at badmothermovie.com

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—Manohla Dargis, THE NEW YORK TIMES



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She stands by her superhero

CAPTAIN AMERICA: CIVIL WAR

Talking to the love interest of key Avenger

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada



There's trouble in Avengers Land.

Like the recent *Batman v. Superman: Dawn of Justice*, which saw the Caped Crusader and the Man of Steel go head-to-head in a showdown over how best to police the world, *Captain America: Civil War* sees the Avengers go mano e' mano e' mano e' mano e' mano e' mano (there's a lot of them) in an effort to settle their differences.

As anyone who has seen the Avengers movies knows, the superhero team have caused havoc all over the world, blowing things up dropping buildings on people, all in the name of law and order. It's been a wild ride but after a rescue mission leaves 11 innocent people dead the United Nations decides



Canadian Emily VanCamp plays Sharon Carter, the love interest of Chris Evans, a.k.a. Captain America. HANDOUT

it's time to rein them in.

The proposed restrictions divide the group. Tony 'Iron Man' Stark (Robert Downey Jr.) wants more oversight while Captain America (Chris Evans) refuses to compromise.

Watching from the sidelines is Sharon Carter, ex-S.H.I.E.L.D. field agent and love interest

of Captain America. Played by Port Perry, Ont., native Emily VanCamp, the character is firmly onside with her superhero suitor.

"It's an interesting debate," she says, "because there is no real right or wrong at any given moment. It is difficult to take sides. I know where my char-

acter stands. I understand that. Because I play her, I get it but at the same time, as Emily, I really do feel it would make much more sense to be on Iron Man's side. That's what makes it interesting. You think you're going to go into it with a very clear vision of whose side you're on but you don't leave

feeling that way."

With two Captain America films under her belt VanCamp is part of the Marvel Universe. That means she has a whole new group of fans with ideas about her character.

"The fans are incredibly invested," she says. "There are a lot of people with very specific ideas of who they want to see with Steve (aka. Captain America) and sometimes Sharon is not that person. I certainly hear about that. You have to admire how invested people are, whether they're on your side or not. You have to respect it. I just have to do the best job I can do as Sharon and create the best version of the character and not take some of it personally. You hope, for the most part, the fans are happy."

The 29-year-old actress began performing in dance class when

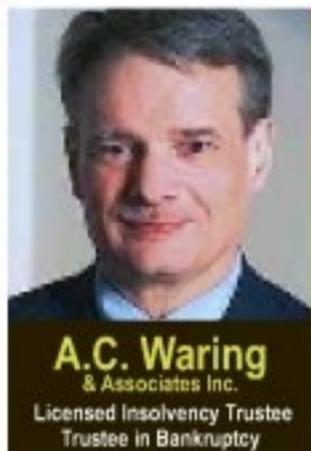
she was just three years old.

"There were a lot of us in my family so it was a way to tire us out," she laughs. "It was an outlet to run around which then turned into more serious dance training."

Those lessons came in handy while shooting one of Civil War's wild fight scenes.

"Dancing teaches you to be connected with your body," she says.

"We had to shoot the scene in Civil War where Sharon and Black Widow take on Bucky, quite fast. We didn't practice it. They were running behind that day and they shot the reaction to getting slammed on the table the next morning but all of the fight stuff was in an hour-and-a-half. I don't think I would have been able to do that unless I had some formal training in dance."



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INTERVIEWS

Brothers from other Mothers

Some heroes are a little too super. Superman can sense Lois Lane is in trouble and fly from Metropolis to Africa in literally a second? It's enough to make you root for Lex Luthor.

But Captain America, as scripted and shot by brothers Anthony and Joe Russo, isn't the kind of hero who can, say, yank a helicopter out of the sky without breaking a sweat.

"If the audience doesn't feel like there are limits that the character can reach both emotionally and physically, then the stakes of the drama fall apart," says Anthony Russo. "You see Cap get hurt. It's hard for him to get up sometimes."

It's this sense of superlogic that makes the billed battle between Captain America and Iron Man in *Captain America: Civil War* such a satisfying slugfest. The fallout follows United Nations pressure for the Avengers to abide by government sanctions. Iron Man vocally agrees while Captain America hesitates, finding a new bond with Bucky Barnes, the brainwashed "Winter Soldier" he grew up with.

Over the phone from L.A., Anthony and Joe Russo delved into Cap's family feud, reintroducing Spider-Man, and helming the biggest Marvel movie yet: the two-part *Avengers: Infinity War*.



Directors Joe and Anthony Russo. GETTY IMAGES

Being brothers making a film about surrogate brotherhood, did you bring a personal perspective to this project?

Joe Russo: Without question it is something that we related to. In Civil War we felt that we had a really interesting conflict between Cap's old family and his new family, the Avengers, that we could mine. The last remaining piece of his past, his best friend and his brother (Bucky Barnes), still exists in a very complicated way.

It was exciting to see Tom Holland as Spider-Man. He has amazing chemistry with Robert Downey Jr. as Iron Man.

Anthony Russo: We knew that bringing a younger char-

acter into the universe would diversify it and give us another tone to play with. It felt like the best person to mentor that character would be Tony.

You've said *Infinity War* will have 67 characters. Is that a real number or a joke number?

JR: It was a bit of a joke, and also real. It's true that we did have that number of characters. What we do is we sit in a writing room with (screenwriters) Christopher Markus and Stephen McFeely and talk about story for months and we do put a lot of stuff on the walls to help us track different ideas. It is true that we had that number of characters on the wall. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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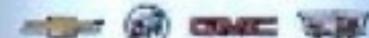


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SOCIAL WORK

Glover to receive human rights award

Actor Danny Glover will receive a human rights award at a historic site in the Adirondacks honouring abolitionist John Brown.

The first Spirit of John Brown Freedom Awards will be presented Saturday at the John Brown Farm State Historic Site near Lake Placid.

Organizers said Glover is expected to attend.

Other recipients are Albany civil rights leader Alice Green and the late Brother Yusuf Abdul-Wasi Burgess, a youth advocate.

Glover is a long-time political activist for humanitarian causes. He's known for leading roles in the *Lethal Weapon* films, *The Color Purple* and *Angels in the Outfield* as well as many other movies and television shows.

John Brown was hanged in 1859 for trying to start an armed slave revolt with a raid on a U.S. arsenal in Harper's Ferry, Virginia. He's buried outside Lake Placid.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The missing people of Rio

INVESTIGATION

Doc examines disappearance of thousands from slums

As Rio de Janeiro prepares to welcome the world for the Summer Olympics, a new documentary is looking beyond the glitz of the Games to cast light on the dark side of Brazil's second largest city.

In the *Shadow of the Hill*, which screens Friday at the Hot Docs festival in Toronto, turns its lens on the residents of Rocinha, the largest slum or "favela" in Brazil.

The densely populated community is estimated to be home to anywhere between 70,000 and 300,000 people, and is located on a mountainside between two of Rio's wealthiest neighbourhoods.

Ahead of the 2014 World Cup and the 2016 Olympics, the Brazilian government introduced a series of "pacification" programs designed to reclaim territories controlled by armed drug traffickers.

Australian filmmaker Dan Jackson arrived in Rocinha in

2012 and started documenting the lives of the residents. The third time he returned to the favela was the same day tragedy occurred: Amarildo de Souza disappeared.

The local bricklayer had last been seen on June 14, 2013, being picked up by police for questioning. Police maintained he left the station alive. His family believed he had been tortured and killed by law enforcement.

"Before the case of Amarildo, there were 22 cases that we officially know of in Rocinha about the police torturing residents to obtain information," said Jackson in an interview.

"They went in front of the courtroom, in front of a judge, and the judge threw it out because they're poor black favela residents."

The mysterious circumstances surrounding de Souza's disappearance soon gained attention beyond Brazil's borders. In *The Shadow of the Hill* also examines the relationship between favela residents and the police, and shows the efforts of community members and activists to maintain hope and seek justice.

According to the film, about



In *The Shadow of the Hill* director Dan Jackson has been documenting the lives of people in Rio's slums since 2012. THE CANADIAN PRESS

38,000 people have disappeared in Rio between 2007 and 2013, the vast majority being black males from the favelas. The documentary also includes interviews with de Souza's family members, community residents and law-

yer and human rights activist Joao Tancredo. According to Tancredo, in the last decade, about 10,000 forced disappearances in Rio alone are under suspicion of police involvement.

"If you look at a map of all the

pacified communities in Rio, they have an inherent link to either the World Cup or the Olympics in terms of infrastructure they planned on building, in terms of public access highways," said Jackson. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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CUBA KIMYE LATEST NAMES TO VISIT HAVANA Kim Kardashian takes a selfie as she rides in a classic car next to husband Kanye West in Havana on Wednesday. The rap superstar, his wife and members of her reality-show-star family are the latest celebrities to visit Havana. They stopped at the Museum of Rum on Wednesday, stepping out of a hot-pink antique American convertible as they snapped selfies and were recorded by a television crew following them around. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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CONSERVATORSHIP

Spears ready to give you more

Since February 2008, Britney Spears' life has been tightly controlled by her father Jamie Spears and lawyer Andrew Wallet.

It was obvious why her family stepped in to help the 34-year-old pop star as she struggled publicly with health and behaviour issues — she shaved her head, appeared dishevelled in public and lost custody of her two sons with Kevin Federline.

But the storm has subsided and whatever undisclosed drug and mental health issues plagued her then seem to be controlled, argued the New York Times in a lengthy feature published online Wednesday.

Meanwhile, the court-approved conservatorship remains in place with Jamie managing her finances and career, and Britney has apparently made no moves to have it lifted.

There are many indications that things are going very well for the performer, whom Forbes named the fifth highest-earning female musician of 2015, ahead of Rihanna and Nicki Minaj. Some key take-aways from the article:

- She recently signed a two-year, \$35-million contract to extend her residency at the



Britney Spears, 34, has apparently made no moves to lift a conservatorship that gives her father management control over her finances and career. JORDAN STRAUSS/INVISION/AP

to spend with her two children. She has, since the divorce, worked out visiting arrangements with Federline.

- Father Jamie earns \$130,000 a year as her conservator.
- She is currently working on her ninth album, her first since 2013, and is set to debut the single "Make Me (Oooh)" at the Billboard Music Awards on May 22.

- She appears slim and healthy and is seen often with her children in Los Angeles.
- Besides her music, Spears earns money from selling

court hearing this week surrounding a suit by "a former self-described manager" seeking compensation, a positive sign after her conservators successfully fought to keep her from testifying in prior lawsuits.

The conservatorship, brought in place when a person is unable to care for themselves, is revisited once a year. Given the success of the arrangement — and the lack of open criticism by the singer — it's possible Britney prefers to leave decision-making to others while she cares for her kids and career.

She's already had enough drama and stress for a lifetime.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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The amount of money Britney Spears' father earns per year as her conservator.

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Cyndi Lauper shows her Country colours

Crossover

Singer releases her western album, Detour

Pop singer, songwriter and Broadway musical composer Cyndi Lauper added a little country twang to her signature Queens accent.

Her country and western covers album Detour, which is out on Friday, brings another unexpected twist to a career that has included music, theatre, television, movies, wrestling and activism.

A musical chameleon, she's won two Grammys, an Emmy and a Tony, but despite all the success, she said she's not as savvy at the art of business.

"Much to the chagrin of my family, I have not been the greatest businesswoman," Lauper said during an interview in Nashville, Tennessee. "I was always art for art's sake. But you have to think of it like a business. It's art and commerce and somewhere in between you find the mix."

Her meandering path took her from Broadway where she wrote music for *Kinky Boots*, which won six Tony Awards, to Music City where the pink-haired 62-year-old singer recorded her latest album with guest vocals from Willie Nelson, Vince Gill, Alison Krauss and Emmylou Harris.

Together with producer Tony Brown, she worked with some of the city's best session musicians to craft a live sound that wasn't polished to perfection.

"I kept telling them, 'It has to be dirty.' Think sex," Lauper said. "So it was a country western theme, but there was always a stripper walking across the floor with a boa. Like a blues thing."

The songs are from different eras of country music, as far back as the '40s, when country was heavily influenced by early rock 'n' roll and blues, or as Lauper said her record label head Seymour Stein put it, "before Elvis kicked the door down."

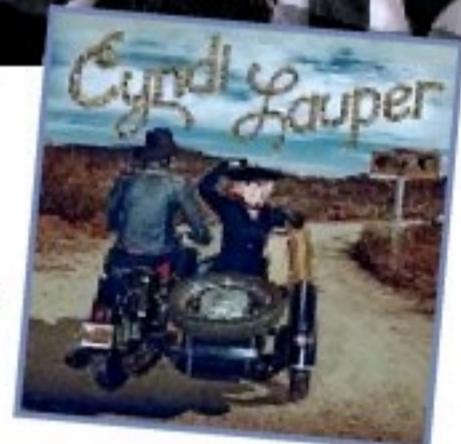
She covers songs made famous by Patsy Cline, Loretta Lynn, Wanda Jackson, George Jones, Dolly Parton and Marty Robbins.

To Lauper, the songs reminded her of being a kid in Queens watching cowboy shows on TV and listening to her aunt Gracie's transistor radio. The female stars



Cyndi Lauper poses in Nashville, Tenn., to promote her new country album, Detour, releasing on Friday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



proved a bit harder for the Girls Just Want To Have Fun singer to record.

"Loretta Lynn, you saw her on TV and you knew she wore a cowboy hat," Lauper said. "But she was a television star to us. As I got older, she sang 'The Pill' and I was like, 'Wow, she's a feminist, too.'"

Gill, who sang the duet You're the Reason Our Kids Are Ugly with Lauper, said they gave a new twist to the classic originally sung by Lynn and Conway Twitty.

"It has this whole talking back and forth at the end of the record with the two of us and it sounds like her being from the Bronx and me being Joe Pesci," Gill said. "It's hysterical."

Early on in her career, she was in a rockabilly band, so it wasn't a stretch for her to include a song like *Funnel of Love*, to which she added a few well-placed high pitched yips. But other songs

She'll be performing the country songs, as well as her classic pop hits, on a tour that starts Monday at the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville.

"And I have an idea of how I am going to put a little country in all of some of the songs I will be singing," Lauper said. "You know, why not? What the heck. You live once."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Much to the chagrin of my family, I have not been the greatest businesswoman.

Emmy, Tony and Grammy winning singer Cyndi Lauper

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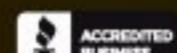
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INCREDIBLE CANADIAN SNORKELLING EXPERIENCES

Snorkelling in tropical waters with pretty coral and colourful fish is nice, but considering the plight of the Canadian dollar, many of us are staying closer to home. Fortunately, Canada's oceans and rivers offer some unique snorkelling experiences of their own. Here are five incredible ideas to add to your bucket list.

MARK STACHIEW/FOR METRO



1 Belugas in Manitoba

TRAVEL MANITOBA

In the cold waters of Hudson Bay near Churchill, Man., visitors can get up close and personal with beluga whales. These beautiful white whales swim in small groups and are plentiful in the Canadian north. Wrapped in a thick wetsuit to keep warm, you plunge into the murky water to find yourself surrounded by belugas. The instant you submerge yourself, you are struck by the clamour of whistles and clicks as they constantly chatter with each other. Belugas seem to be as curious about us as we are about them, so don't be surprised if mother whales bring their babies up to take a closer look at you.



2 Sea stars in British Columbia

DESTINATION BC

In British Columbia's Desolation Sound Marine Provincial Park, you can snorkel with the stars — the sea stars, that is. In the park's warm, nutrient-rich waters, snorkellers can admire aquatic gardens of giant sunflower stars, purple stars, mottled stars, leather stars, blood stars and painted stars along with an abundance of other marine life. As a bonus, the area's fjords and mountains offer scenery that is as spectacular above water as it is below.



3 Salmon in New Brunswick and British Columbia

Atlantic or Pacific salmon? No, it's not a menu choice at a restaurant. You can snorkel with these iconic fish on either of Canada's coasts. In British Columbia's Powell River, visitors can swim with the colourful fish from June to September as they return on their annual migration to their spawning grounds on Vancouver Island. In the east, in New Brunswick's Fundy National Park, you can team up with park scientists this September on the Upper Salmon River to count Atlantic salmon as they too head upstream to reproduce.



4 Seals in Quebec and B.C.

RICK STANLEY, OCEAN QUEST ADVENTURES

The first time you swim with seals you fully realize that humans are not really meant to be in the water. It's a good thing seals can't laugh, otherwise you'd know they were mocking you as they effortlessly swim around you while you fumble in your snorkelling gear in an attempt to keep up. Young seals, which are essentially puppies with fins, are especially fond of showing off. You can frolic with these fun creatures on the east coast in Forillon National Park in Quebec's Gaspé region or off of Vancouver Island near Nanaimo, B.C.

5 Humpback whales in Newfoundland

Whale watching from a boat is great, but swimming next to them in the water is so much better. You can do it in the waters off the east coast of the Avalon Peninsula in Newfoundland where humpback whales like to congregate in July and August. Swimming side by side with one of these humongous creatures is a life-changing experience. You will feel tiny by comparison and then you realize they aren't even the largest whales in the world.



WASHINGTON

Forget Capitol Hill, D.C.'s politicos make room for hipsters

Over the last decade, Washington's incumbent suit-and-tie scene has been upstaged by alternative, revitalized neighbourhoods filled with beer gardens, social sports, food trucks, locavore restaurants and artist cafés.

Not far from the National Mall and Capitol Hill, a dynamic group of chefs, brew masters, club owners and artists have cultivated a thriving nightlife — shaking the U.S. capital's staid reputation as a commuter town full of tourist traps and lobbyist-infested steak houses.

Case in point: Vendetta Bocce

Bar & Tavern on H St. N.E. Even 15 years ago, the area east of Union Station had a reputation for seediness and crime. These days it's a prime destination for those looking for a little recreation with their recreational drinking. "When people think of D.C., they typically think of all the government offices and jobs — and people who like to work hard play hard," says Bryson Lefmann, Vendetta's events and marketing manager.

Known for its free indoor bocce courts, the bar's décor is a hipster dream house of vintage

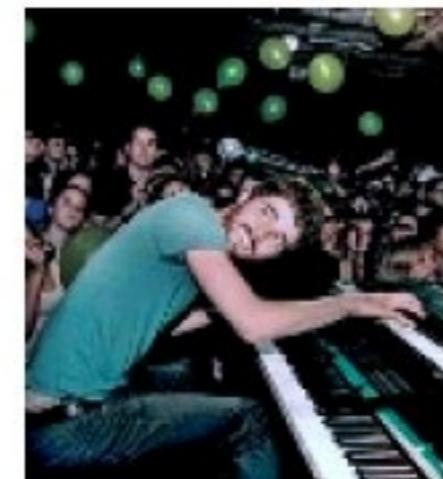
cameras, umbrellas, black-and-white family photos, and vintage Italian advertisements.

D.C. has a transient, young working population looking to be socially engaged, Lefmann adds, so "they come to our bar to do something fun." That same ethos applies to Vendetta's sister bar across the street, the H Street Country Club. Casey Hogan, the club's general manager, labels the whole gentrifying strip an "up-and-comer." His club's covered, rooftop patio plays off its name: at night, the lights flicker off the blue walls and ceiling

like reflecting pool waves. But the biggest draw is indoor, nine-hole mini-golf. The brainchild of a local artist, the D.C.-themed course even attracts customers playing the part in plaid shorts and golf caps.

Chef Kyle Bailey's Birch & Barley is one of the hottest spots on the thriving 14th St. N.W., serving beers paired to menu items such as pan-fried sweetbread and roast pappardelle.

The New York kitchen vet says D.C.'s stable staple of government-related jobs makes it less risky to launch a restaurant. But



Ben Live plays at the Black Cat on 14th Street. TORSTAR

NEWS SERVICE

expense-account restos have been usurped by multicultural cuisine, tasty street food and farm-to-table kitchens like Bailey's own.

The Birch & Barley's centre-piece is an organ-designed beer tap system, its large pipes also carrying draft through the ceiling to serve its upstairs companion pub ChurchKey. The dual-venue crowd is a D.C. catch-all: young and old, suits and T-shirts, hipster and politico. D.C.'s old and new worlds are co-existing? It's nice to see someone in Washington getting along.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Five happening summer destinations

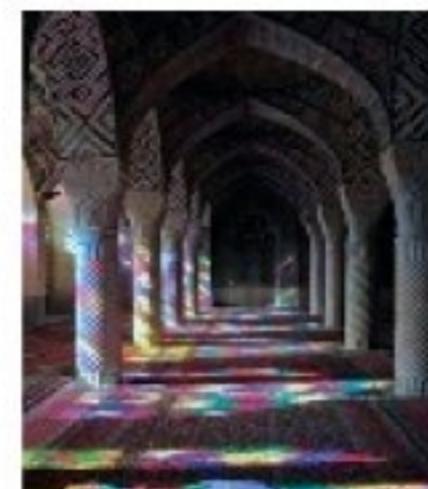
As well as beating the crowds and bypassing the pitfalls of mass tourism, visitors holidaying in up-and-coming destinations can also enjoy lower prices. Hot on the heels of Croatia — Europe's "exotic" destination some 15 years ago — here are five alternative hotspots for holidaying off the beaten track. AFP



1 Bulgaria

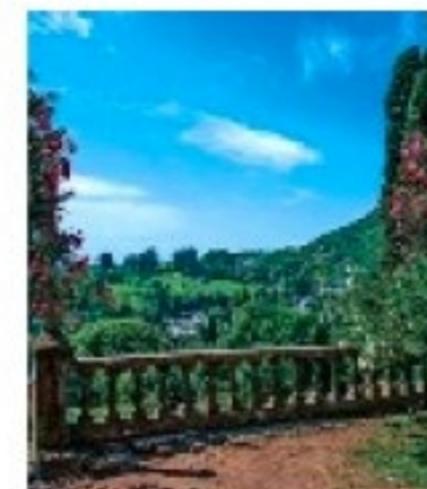
ALL PHOTOS ISTOCK

Like Croatia used to be years ago, Bulgaria is the latest up-and-coming destination in Eastern Europe. Tourists can still enjoy low prices with a bit of savvy planning. A flight to the capital, Sofia, shouldn't break the bank, especially since budget airlines now operate routes from some European cities. The country offers postcard-perfect landscapes for holidaymakers thanks to Black Sea beaches and a patchwork of typical Balkan villages and temperatures of around 27 C.



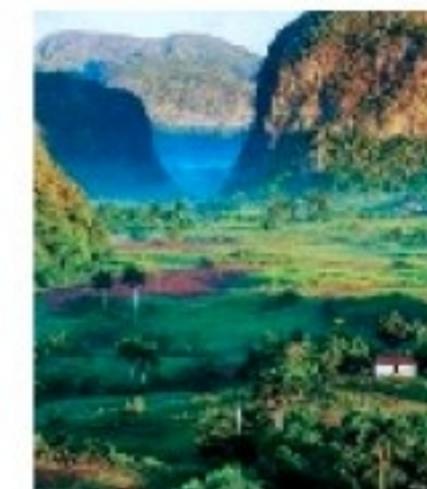
2 Iran

International relations with Iran have warmed since last year's signing of a nuclear deal. Major airlines are reopening routes to Tehran and international hotel groups are returning as tourists head back to Iran. Persepolis is a must for anyone with an interest in history, and budding photographers will love the dazzling coloured mosaics of the Nasir al-Mulk mosque in Shiraz.



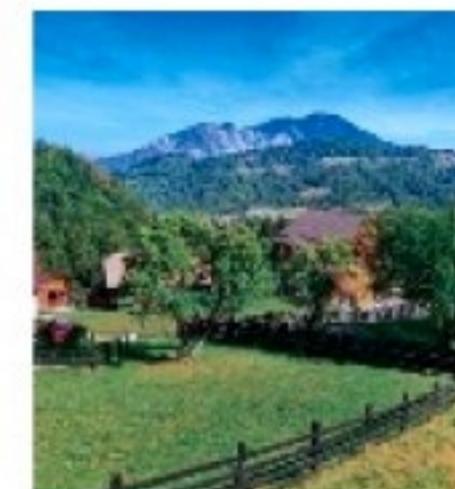
3 Abkhazia

The Black Sea is a seriously hot destination in the travel world right now. On its eastern shore, Abkhazia awaits tourists curious to discover this little-known region between the Caucasus Mountains and the Black Sea. Abkhazia will please travellers with a taste for nature thanks to its many mountains and caves, including Krubera Cave, the deepest known on Earth.



4 Cuba

Catch a glimpse of the famous Cuban cars, take a peaceful dip in the crystal-clear waters of Maria La Gorda, or wander through Havana's picturesque old town before American tourists begin being able to arrive en masse, thanks to a thaw in U.S. relations. Make the most of the many salsa and rumba dance classes and local "casa particular" home stays.



5 Transylvania

Situated in the centre-west of Romania, Transylvania is a new alternative destination for nature-lovers thanks to its lush, green surroundings and natural border with the Carpathian mountain range. Transylvanian architecture and landscapes give a distinctly Game of Thrones slant to the surroundings, scattered with baroque-style villages like Cluj-Napoca.

TRAVEL NOTES

Graceland hits 20 millionth paid visitor

Elvis Presley Enterprises says CEO Jack Soden greeted the 20 millionth visitor, 31-year-old Tiffany Greenoak, at Graceland on Monday morning. Greenoak, who's originally from Montreal, and now lives in London, was on her honeymoon with her husband, 40-year-old Robert Greenoak. Elvis Presley lived at Graceland for 20 years before he died on Aug. 16, 1977. Tours of Graceland began on June 7, 1982.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



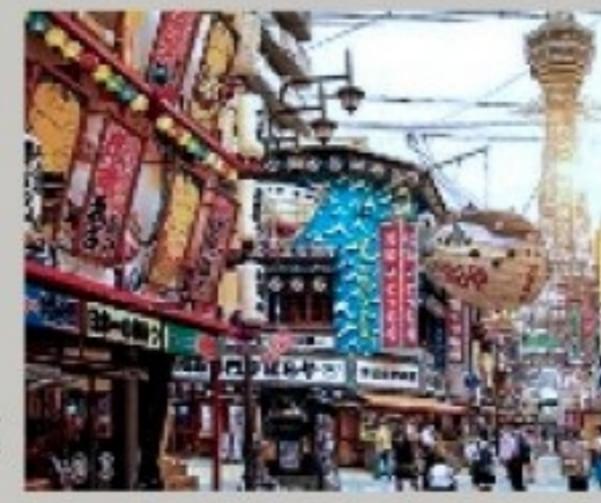
Surgeon makes Rhode Island ad

An oral surgeon made a Rhode Island tourism ad and paid for it to air on television following the botched rollout of the state's own tourism campaign that featured an image of Iceland. A tourism video that Rhode Island released in March was quickly pulled after being mocked for showing footage of a Reykjavik concert hall. Cranston surgeon Stephen Skoly said he saw the state's mistake and thought, "We could do a lot better." Skoly, who owns a production company, created his own 30-second video featuring local footage with the tagline, Sea Rhode Island. He said it cost about \$575 to make and \$3,000 to air locally on CNN and elsewhere. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Japan wants foreign tourists to avoid 'public flatulence'

A Japanese tourism board has called on foreign tourists to refrain from public "belching or flatulence" in an etiquette guide which was hastily rewritten, reportedly after complaints from a Chinese resident. Originally entitled Common Sense When Travelling in Hokkaido — the guide upset a Chinese resident who angrily claimed the diagrams featuring examples of bad tourist behaviour were offensive, Japan's Kyodo news agency reported. The complaint prompted a new, foreigner-friendly version with softer explanations of Japanese customs. AFP



DIGITAL SALES SPECIALIST

Star Metro Media is looking for an experienced, energetic and motivated individual to join our dynamic Sales team in Edmonton. The Sales team is responsible for providing clients with access to leading-edge digital solutions. The right candidate will possess in-depth knowledge of the media industry and its trends, a focused, driven mind set and an eagerness to meet and exceed targets.

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

- Actively prospect and develop new business opportunities in conjunction with existing sales teams
- Build and maintain strong relationships with new and existing clients
- Respond to queries and follow up on all client calls and emails
- Prepare sales status reports and update account history
- Work collaboratively internally and externally to create and deliver digital marketing programs
- Develop innovative digital presentations
- Achieve and exceed allocated sales budgets
- Keep current in industry trends, including participating in industry related functions, conferences, seminars and committees
- Provide local digital support to designated market

WHO YOU ARE:

- Minimum of 2-4 years experience in a digital media sales role, or 3 years of experience in a traditional media role with a minimum of 1 year of digital sales experience
- Excellent oral and written presentation, communication and negotiation skills
- Strong understanding of Google ad words, Behavioural Targeting, Retargeting, Social, Mobile, Content Marketing, Email Marketing and SEO best practices
- Proficient in Microsoft Office applications
- Solid understanding of the media industry and its trends and prepared to make valuable recommendations based on that knowledge
- Digital subject matter expert
- Dedication to achieving results while maintaining a positive and motivated attitude
- Derives satisfaction from providing support and sharing expertise

Individuals interested and having the skills described are requested to submit their resumé and cover letter via email to hr@metronews.ca no later than May 8, 2016.

PLEASE QUOTE: "DIGITAL SALES SPECIALIST — Edmonton" in the Subject Line. All submissions will be treated as confidential.

Outstanding environmental achievements

Twenty-five years ago, the Emerald Awards held its first event to recognize and celebrate outstanding environmental achievements from large and small businesses, individuals, not-for-profit associations, community groups, youth and governments across Alberta.

Since then, there have been 768 finalists and 280 recipients.

"Every single one of these organizations and individuals has made a significant contribution to Alberta's ability to balance growth and resource development with preserving our environment. That's quite something," says Carmen Boyko, executive director at Alberta Emerald Foundation. "This year, we have 32 finalists, 12 of which will be announced as recipients."

The Emerald Awards is the only award program of its kind in Canada to showcase environmental excellence in all sizes and across all sectors — from community leaders and start-ups to international oil and gas producers.

The Emerald Awards applaud dozens of environmental leaders and showcase projects that demonstrate environmental excellence, setting example for everyone across the province.

By celebrating excellence in environmental leadership, the Emerald Awards and the Alberta Emerald Foundation are raising the public's awareness about and around stewardship.

The 25th Annual Emerald Awards will be presented on June 8, 2016 at Telus Spark in Calgary. Meet three of the nominees.

Project leaves environmental legacy

The NOVA Chemicals Community Nature Trail is an 89-hectare (220-acre) area that's home to native grasses, willow, poplar and aspen stands as well as wetlands and natural drainage channels that are wonderful habitat for birds and wildlife.

"We are proud of the environmental legacy that this project leaves for the community into the future as a reflection of long-standing commitments to Responsible Care®, sustainability and socially responsible operations," says Jim Dixon, the Director, Responsible Care at NOVA Chemicals. "Opening the area to the community continues to safeguard this environmental resource while enhancing its wildlife habitat, protecting native vegetation and wetlands."

Back in 2013, NOVA Chemicals announced it would create an environmental legacy project that would reflect the province's Water for Life strategy and wetland policies. And in the fall of 2015 the Community Nature Trail, near NOVA



CONTRIBUTED

Chemical's facilities at the Joffre, was opened for the public — and wildlife — to enjoy. A new stormwater-management system, part of NOVA Chemicals' recent rail-yard expansion

to the west, enhances the wetland and habitat capability.

"We are honoured to be recognized for this prestigious nomination in environmental excellence," says Dixon. "This recognition demonstrates that we have completed a project that is meaningful to the community and to the greater public, which ultimately, was our goal."

The five km trail system has 26 interpretive signs that share the company's message of 'Taking Care with Our Land' message. Using the trail encourages people to connect with nature. And, it demonstrates how wildlife habitat, agricultural, industrial and recreational land uses can all exist together.

"We believe that the Emerald Awards demonstrate the ability and breadth of projects that show environmental excellence and are able to inspire others to do the same," he says. "It puts ideas in the forefront of the public so that can generate new projects and ideas."

CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH THEIR PRODUCE

You could say Sustainable Food Edmonton (SFE) connects people with their produce.

The not-for-profit organization, which was founded in 1989, connects communities and school kids with their food, how it's produced and the planet that makes it all possible. Since it started, the organization has played a role in digging more than 91 community gardens, visited 51 elementary classrooms and eight different high schools.

"It is a great honour to be nominated for an Emerald Award, especially given the high caliber of past finalists and recipients," says SFE's Stephanie Spafford. "It shows that the work Sustainable Food Edmonton has done over the last 27 years has had an incredible impact on the community."

The organization runs three programs in Edmonton. Little Green Thumbs (LGT) provides

students with hands-on experiences growing gardens in their educational environments.

Urban Ag High (UAH) is an extension of the LGT program and it connects teachers and educators with the resources and skills they need to deliver experiential learning opportunities around urban agriculture for junior and senior high school students.

And, the Community Garden program supports and encourages people in neighbourhoods across Edmonton to get started developing their very own community garden so they can enjoy the food it produces.

All three of these programs work with people of all ages in Edmonton across dozens of neighbourhoods to educate them about the benefits of urban agriculture. "Sustainable Food Edmonton is most proud of all the ways in which we have been able to share the positive



CONTRIBUTED

benefits of urban agriculture with the community, whether this was through classroom education or working with community gardens," says Spafford.

"The Emerald Awards encourage organizations like us to be creative and innovative in the way we offer programs and services in Alberta."



25TH ANNUAL EMERALD AWARDS

Recognizing and celebrating environmental excellence in Alberta.

Since 1992, the Alberta Emerald Foundation has showcased 280 recipients and over 760 finalists through the Emerald Awards.

This year, an independent panel of judges selected 32 examples of environmental innovation and leadership as our 2016 Emerald Awards Finalists.

The 25th Annual Emerald Awards will be announced on June 8, 2016 at Telus Spark in Calgary.

Learn about Alberta's EcoHeroes at emeraldfoundation.ca



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POWER SYSTEMS

ENBRIDGE

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Alberta
REAL ESTATE
FOUNDATION



Clandonald School for Warriors of the Rainbow

Students at Clandonald School, east of Edmonton, have been recycling paper and beverage containers, helping with the community clean-up and otherwise enhancing the environment for the last 13 years through the Warriors of the Rainbow program.

The program has grown to include composting, gardening and making bluebird houses, planting shrubs and apple trees and providing indoor plants to every classroom to help improve air quality. The students also work with a seniors' club to learn various handicrafts, most of which use scrap materials.

"Last spring, we added two more raised garden beds to grow carrots for healthy snacks and rain barrels helped with watering," says teacher Geralyn McCormack. "The students potted and sold spider plant babies and started flowers for decorative pots. The Grade 4 Social Studies class made 30-second commercials about proper disposal of household hazardous waste."

This is the fourth time the program has been nominated for an Emerald Award, an honour that "lets our students know that our environmental initiatives are judged to be important to the world outside our own community," says McCormack. "Every child participates and contributes in some way. This is hard work, yet our students are enthusiastic and positive."

Caring for the environment is not only the right thing to do, the students see the results for themselves in their playground with its garden beds, plants and trees, the pride they feel for their community as well as the strong relationships they build with the local seniors.

The group gets its name from a First Nations' legend about the leaders that will come to restore the health of the Earth.

"Warriors of the Rainbow are proud to be environmental leaders," she says. "Our students work very hard on our environmental projects, and they are thrilled that they are being recognized for it."



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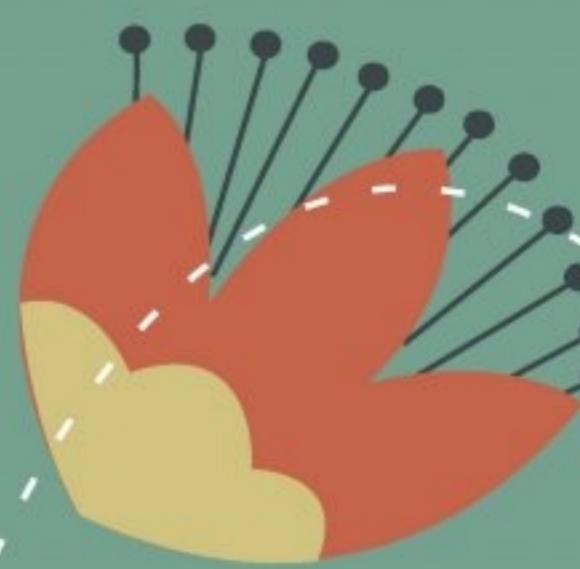
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Learn more about these Albertan EcoHeroes at emeraldfoundation.ca

44-year-old Jaromir Jagr, who is a finalist for the Bill Masterton Memorial Trophy, has agreed to a one-year contract to return to the Panthers

Unsung heroes step up

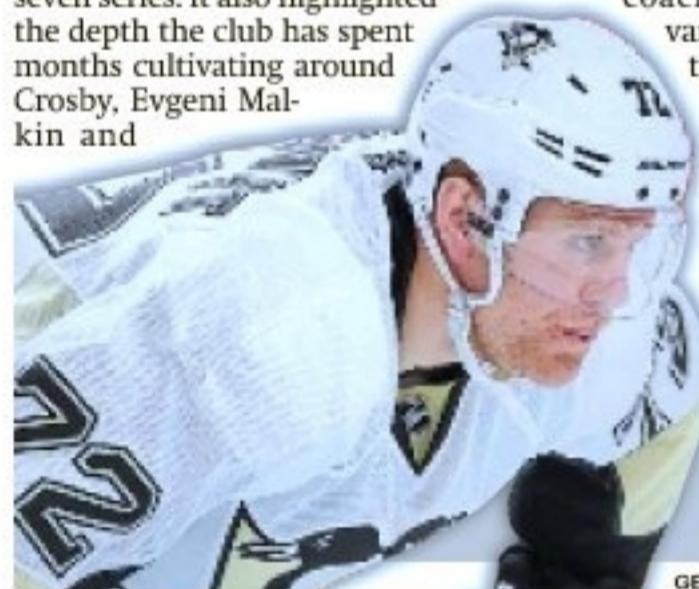
NHL PLAYOFFS

Lesser-known names on Pens giving Caps a tough time

The well-travelled defenceman filling in for his team's most indispensable player scored the first goal. The seemingly ageless centre closing in on his 40th birthday scored the second. And the winger who makes a living trying to create space for Pittsburgh captain Sidney Crosby delivered the overtime winner that brought the Penguins within one victory of a spot in the Eastern Conference final.

Sure, the stars might be out in the NHL's marquee playoff matchup. They're just not the ones shining.

Pittsburgh's 3-2 thriller over top-seeded Washington in Game 4 on Wednesday night did more than give the Penguins a commanding 3-1 lead in the best-of-seven series. It also highlighted the depth the club has spent months cultivating around Crosby, Evgeni Malkin and



Patric Hornqvist's five post-season goals are tops on the Penguins.

GETTY IMAGES

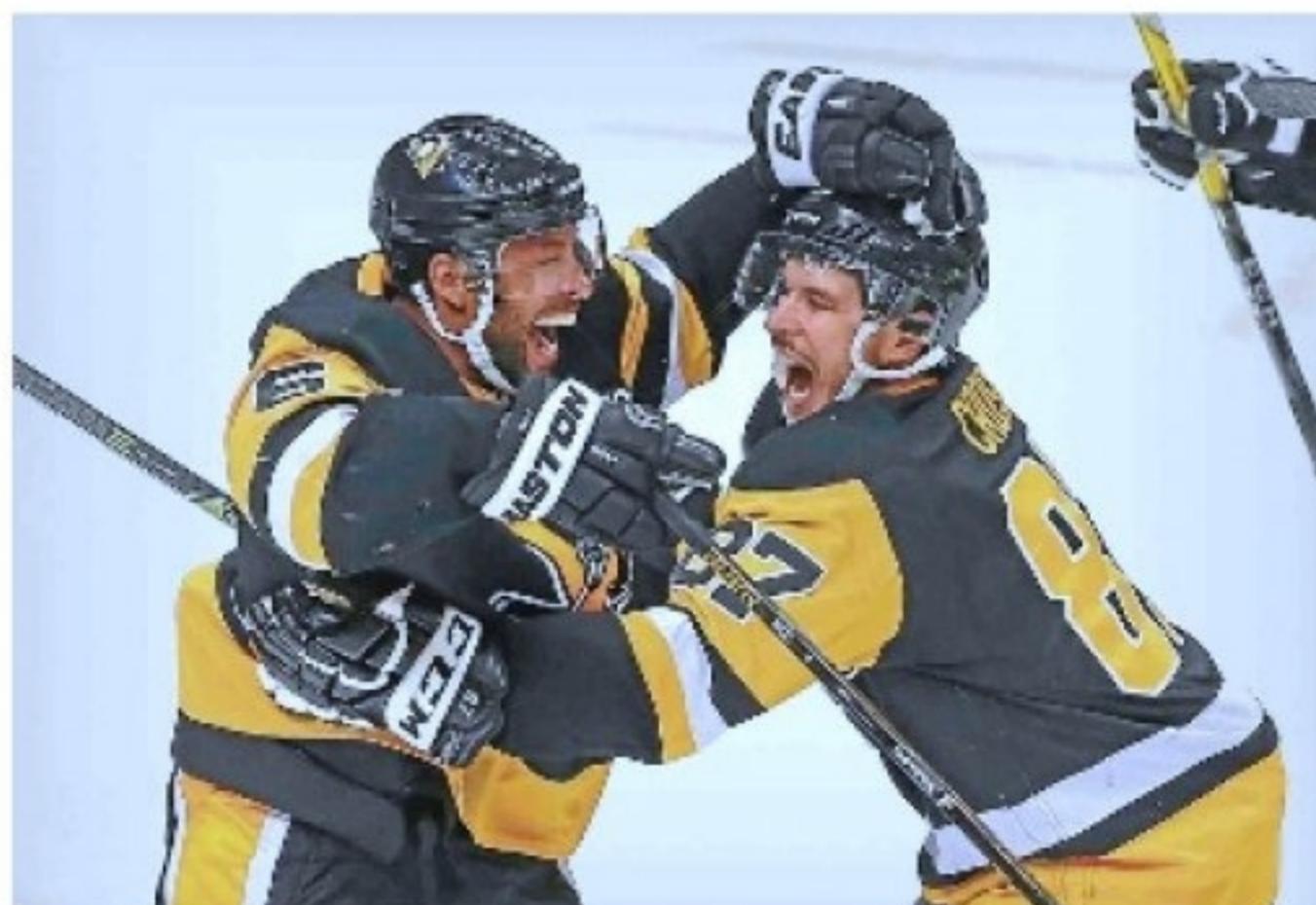
Kris Letang.

Trevor Daley skated more than 28 minutes and picked up his first post-season goal in more than two years while serving the ironman role typically filled by Letang, serving a one-game suspension for an illegal hit in Game 3. Matt Cullen, who at 39 has openly wondered if he wants to return in the fall, slipped behind the Washington defence to give the Penguins a 2-1 lead. Patric Hornqvist, who spends most of time suction-cupped to a spot in front of the opposing goaltender, pounced on a loose puck 2:34 into overtime and slammed it by Braden Holtby to end Pittsburgh's eight-game playoff losing streak in games pushed beyond regulation.

Heady territory for guys considered mere supporting players when the second-ever playoff showdown between Crosby and Alexander Ovechkin began last week.

"I think there's a great chemistry amongst the team that we have right now," Penguins coach Mike Sullivan said. "To see these guys play as hard as they do for one another as their coaches, it's a thrill."

Washington coach Barry Trotz tried



Trevor Daley, left, and Sidney Crosby celebrate the Penguins' winning goal on Wednesday night. Daley logged 28 minutes of ice time in Game 4. GENE J. PUSKAR/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

to downplay the hype between two of the NHL's most dynamic players in the run-up to Game 1, stressing there were much more to the longtime rivals than their franchise cornerstones.

Trotz was more right than he knew, only it's Pittsburgh's role players who have pushed the Presidents' Trophy winners to the brink of elimination. Cullen's two points during the series

equal Malkin's output. Hornqvist has three points through four games, two more than Crosby.

"(Hornqvist) does a lot of the thankless things that help this team be successful," Sullivan said. "To see him get rewarded in overtime for us is a thrill."

General manager Jim Rutherford rebuilt Pittsburgh since taking over in the summer of 2014. Only a handful of players remain from the group that skated off the ice following a Game 7 loss to New York in the second round two years ago, a series the Penguins had led 3-1.

That setback is still fresh in the mind of Crosby and the others who remain. At the same time, most of the guys who surround Crosby in the dressing room won't carry that baggage into Game 5 on Saturday night in Washington. This is, in many ways, feels like a fresh start filled with fresh faces, even if some are less well-known than others.

"We've always found ways to get the job done," Daley said. "That's what this team's been all about. We always found ways to get it done. We started it a while ago and it's continuing on."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

Finalists named for coach of year

Florida's Gerard Gallant, Dallas' Lindy Ruff and Washington's Barry Trotz were named the three finalists for the Jack Adams Award on Thursday, given to the NHL's best head coach.

Gallant led the Panthers (47-26-9, 103 points) to the Atlantic Division title and franchise records for wins and points in a season, besting their previous marks of 43 wins and 98 points established in 1999-00. Florida established several other team marks this season, including longest overall winning streak (12: Dec. 15 to Jan. 10) and longest home winning streak (7: Dec. 10 to Jan. 3).

Ruff directed the Stars (50-23-9, 109 points) to the Central Division and Western Conference titles and second place in the overall standings. The team was an NHL-best 28-8-3 by New Year's Day and went on to capture its first division title since 2005-06, first conference crown since 2002-03 and reach the 50-win milestone for the first time since 2006-07.

Trotz guided the Capitals (56-18-8, 120 points) to the Presidents' Trophy as the NHL's top regular-season club, setting franchise records for total wins and road wins (27). Their 120 points and 29 home wins were just one shy of club records.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

FORT MCMURRAY WILDFIRE

Alberta sport giants donate to Red Cross

Alberta's professional sports teams are contributing to relief efforts after raging wildfires forced the evacuation of tens of thousands of people from the city of Fort McMurray and other northern municipalities.

The NHL's Edmonton Oilers and Calgary Flames have each donated \$100,000 to the Canadian Red Cross and have encouraged fans to make contributions. The league later announced it would also be donating \$100,000 to the relief organization.

"The National Hockey League family stands with all who have been affected by the devastating fires in Fort McMurray," NHL commissioner Gary Bettman said in a statement. "We send thoughts of support and encouragement to our neighbors as they confront this disaster."

Meanwhile, the Edmonton Eskimos are spearheading a CFL initiative that includes a combined \$50,000 donation to the Red Cross from all nine teams.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



DeMarre Carroll celebrates leveling the series.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA PLAYOFFS

Raptors tie up series with Heat

Kyle Lowry bounced back into all-star form to lift the Toronto Raptors to a 96-92 overtime victory over the Miami Heat on Thursday, evening their second-round playoff series at one win apiece.

Lowry had 18 points, including two clutch baskets in the final minute of regulation, just two nights after what had to be one of the worst games of his career. DeMarre Carroll scored 21 points, Jonas Valanciunas had 15 points and 12 rebounds, DeMar DeRozan chipped in with 20 points, and Terrence Ross added 10. The Raptors roared out to a

GAME 2 in Toronto

96 **92**
RAPTORS HEAT

14-point lead, and looked poised to romp to a relatively easy victory over Miami, but the Heat had all the momentum in a weak third quarter for Toronto and took a 65-63 lead into the fourth.

Luol Deng capped an 8-0 Heat run with a three-pointer to give Miami a seven-point lead with

six minutes to play. But the Raptors clawed their way back over a thrilling final few minutes of regulation, and a long jump shot by Lowry with 45 seconds left gave Toronto a four-point lead.

After Dwyane Wade drilled a three-pointer, Lowry fired back with a basket, but Goran Dragic, who played the second half with eight stitches in his lip, sunk a heartbreaking three with 10.5 seconds left to send the game into overtime tied 86-86. Toronto dominated in OT, virtually the reverse of Tuesday's game, to seal victory. THE CANADIAN PRESS

RECIPE Oat and Banana Pancakes



PHOTO: MAYA VISNEY

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

You're not thinking about letting the Mom in your life make breakfast on Sunday, are you?

Ready in

Prep time: 5 minutes
Cook time: 15 minutes

Ingredients

- 1 cup old fashioned oats
- 1 cup spelt flour
- 1/4 brown sugar
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 2 eggs
- 3/4 cup milk
- 3/4 cup plain Greek-style yogurt
- 1/2 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 ripe bananas, mashed
- 1/2 cup dark chocolate chips
- 4 Tbsp butter

Directions

1. In a large mixing bowl, combine

oats, flour sugar, baking soda, baking powder and cinnamon.

2. In a separate bowl, whisk eggs, milk, yogurt and vanilla. Combine yogurt mixture with dry ingredients and then fold in bananas.

3. Heat 1 tablespoon of butter in a large skillet over medium heat. Use a 1/4 cup measure to pour batter in your hot pan, leaving some space between pancakes in the skillet. Cook pancakes until bubbles appear on top and the underside is golden brown then flip and cook another 1 to 2 minutes. Add another tablespoon of butter to pan between batches and work until batter is finished.

4. Serve with warm maple syrup, agave or honey.

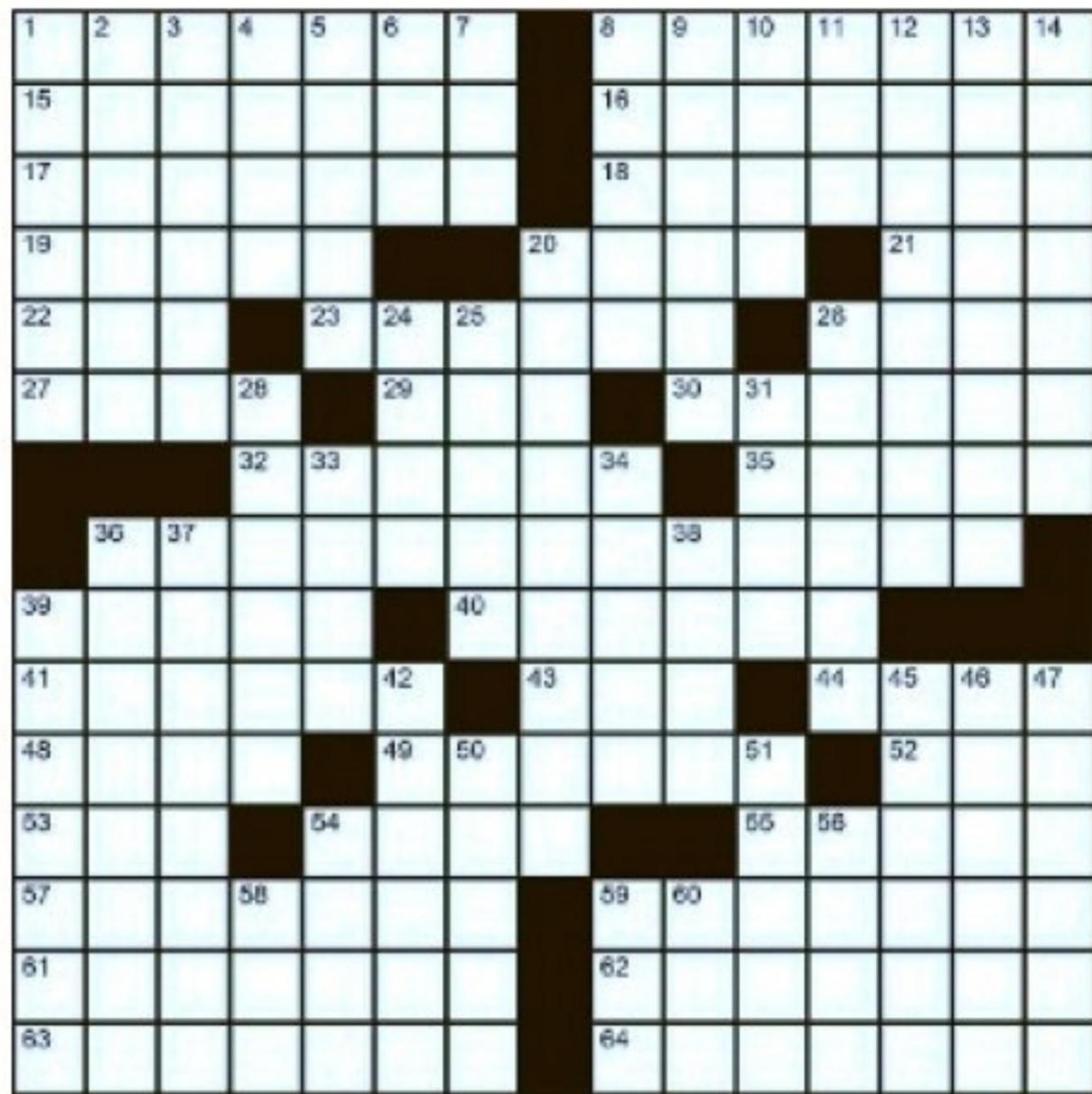
FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT
SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

- Clearly expresses
- Minstrel musicians
- Mosque tower
- Up the proverbial creek: 3 wds.
- Autocratically
- Potassium —
- Handle
- Advantages
- Music style
- Eliminate
- Canucks (note the 's'), as opposed to Canuck
- Assist
- Acknowledged
- Hot season in Montreal
- "The Partridge Family" character played by Susan Dey
- Biblical book/prophet
- Canadian Politics: Nicknames of the Liberals
- Famous event Canadian racehorse Northern Dancer won in 1964: 2 wds.
- sock (Do damning)
- Celine's "The Prayer" duettist
- Pre-born social insect: 2 wds.
- Canadian rapper, JD —
- Disapproving sound
- Munchies/treats, advertising-style
- English class assignments
- Comprehend
- X
- Captivating animal attractions
- by — Carlisle
- Fixed the suit jacket in a way
- Couture
- Tonsil's pal
- Port city in North Africa on the Mediterranean
- Became full from the buffet
- "Circle in the Sand"



DOWN

- Set sail
- Bow's instrument
- Not outdoors
- Spaceflight gr.
- Crunchy
- Snake-like splasher
- Pen
- The Balance
- Get the newly-purchased rug ready for use
- New Mexico art colony
- Doctrine
- Bible: Eve was created from one: 2 wds.
- Wholeness
- Grassy expanses

on plains
20. As per #36-Across... The other big thoroughbred horse race Northern Dancer won in 1964, — Stakes
24. French for 'the water'
25. Mohawk Valley city in New York
26. "Whoopee!"
28. Glass cleaning brand
31. Pulitzer-winning writer James
33. Male deer
34. Mythological multi-headed monster
36. Put the dogs in a boarding shelter, States-style
37. Mire
38. Sturdy horse cart
39. Flat-roofed tomb of ancient Egypt
42. Lieutenant Commander — La Forge ('Star Trek' universe character)
45. The Night of the — (Tennessee Williams play)
46. Jet- — (World traveller)
47. War horses
50. "What a pity": 2 wds.
51. Beach trinket
54. — of Elea (Ancient Greek philosopher)
56. Seed coat
58. "Am — your way?"
59. Legendary monster
60. Peace sign's spelled-out shape

*IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Today is the best day of the year to take stock of what you own. Do your wealth and assets make your life easier? After all, that's the objective, isn't it?

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Take a realistic look in the mirror today to see how you can make a better impression on your world. (This is the best day of the year to do this.)

Gemini May 22 - June 21
For one more month, you must be patient with partners and close friends. After that, these relationships will be far less demanding.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Friendships are important, whether you are an extrovert or an introvert. Actually, your friends are a reflection of who you are. Think about this today.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Today's New Moon is the best day all year to observe your style of relating to authority figures — bosses, parents and VIPs. Are you gracious or competitive?

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
What further education or training will help to improve your job? What travel might you do to enrich your life?

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You will have greater peace of mind if you work to reduce your debt. This is the perfect day to think about how to do this.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Scrutinize your partnerships and closest friendships today, because this is the best day of the year to do this. (That's because today is the only New Moon opposite your sign all year.)

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
What can you do to improve your job or the way that you do your job? The whole point of efficiency is to make things easier for you.

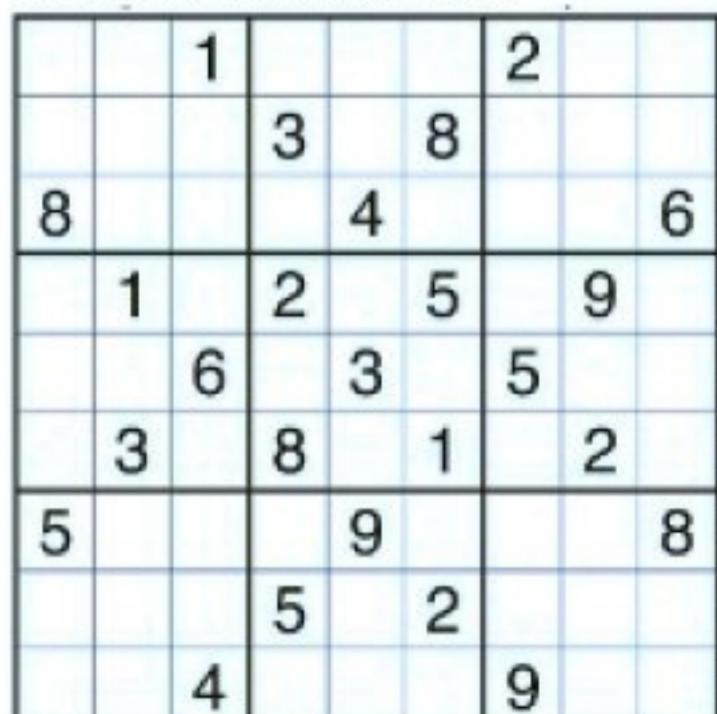
Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
"No pain, no gain" is a Capricorn belief. But in truth, we all need to play every day! Do you balance play with work? Think about this today.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Think of several ways that you might improve your home, as well as your relationships with family members. Today's New Moon is the best day of the year to think about this.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
It's important to be as clear as you can in all your communications with others. Observe your style of communicating. Do you really listen to others, or do you just wait for a chance to speak?

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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